THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and foreign Literature, Science, and the ffine Arts.

No. 1274.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1852.

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Semeraet House, March 29, 1859.

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Bellows the shall apply on the south of the Society and the south of the Society and the south of the Society subscribing for tickets will be neited after that day. Fellows of the Society subscribing for tickets dilay price will be allowed a dear used from the 20th of July during size they may claim them. A PTER THAT PERIOD ALL THE AGENT OF THE SOCIETY STATES THE SOCIETY AND THE SOCIETY STATES THE SOCIETY AND THE SOCIETY STATES THE STATES THE SOCIETY STATES THE SOCIET

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Modern India: a Sketch of the System of Civil Government. By George Campbell, Esq., Bengal Civil Service. Murray.

THE present Charter of the East India Company, granted for twenty years in 1834, will expire on the 30th of April in the year after next; and already the House of Commons, following the precedents set on former similar occasions, is about to appoint a Committee to consider the questions connected with our Indian policy and administration. At the present time, therefore, there is a practical use in any discussions which are intended to add to our knowledge or to correct our prejudices with reference to the people and the government of India. On the last two renewals of the Charter, in 1813 and 1834, the absorbing topics were of rather a European than an Indian complexion. On the first of those occasions Parliament had to consider the grave questions arising out of the proposed violation for the first time of that rigid monopoly of trade and dominion which had prevailed for the preceding seventy years. In 1834 the questions were still more emphatically commercial; for it was then to be settled whether or not the East India Company should be divested altogether of its commercial character, and be raised or reduced-for there is some uncertainty which is the proper wordinto a corporation wholly political, exercising functions more formidable than have ever been committed to any other association of private persons. Those great controversies are now settled, and for ever. The last of the Company's supercargoes has disappeared from the factories at Canton, - the magnificent fleet of "Com-pany's vessels" which used to traverse, more as men-of-war than as merchantmen, the seas and oceans between London and Calcutta have been worn out or dispersed,—and the trade as well as the patronage of the East has ceased to flow through the house in Leadenhall Street. We are now at the end of the first twenty years' experiment that we have tried in governing India not more or less as a spice-garden or a sugar-plantation, but as an empire of many nations:-and we have to ascertain what has

Mr. Campbell is, much to his credit, among the first to assist us in forming a judgment. He is a comparatively young civilian on the Bengal Establishment; and the book which he has now written proves certainly that during the time he has been in India he has not confined his solicitude or his observation to the mere sphere of his duty,-but, like a man of business and a philosopher, has thought no fact so small as to be worthless and no question so large as to forbid an attempt to understand it. Mr. Camp-bell's great strength consists in describing clearly and briefly matters of fact of which he has a personal, or at all events an intimate, knowledge.
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does not acquit himself so well. His knowledge
is always of more value than his opinions: and his mode of statement is so eminently simple and lucid, that those who read his book will regret that he should ever permit himself to indulge in speculation. His style is quite a model of official composition. The meaning is nearly always conveyed in the fewest words,—and those of the most familiar kind. His paragraphs as well as the sentences are short. Every page has a marginal reading;—and wherever statistics are not to be avoided

the book will obtain many readers, and deserves the attention that it will obtain. We have very little fault to find with the spirit in which any part of it is written, and still less are we disposed to say that any of the chapters taken as a whole convey an essentially false impression of the subjects of which they treat. Still, large corrections must be made before even Mr. Campbell's book, able and full of information as it is, can be received as a fair statement of the present condition of our administration and of our fellow subjects in India. The description is in its general character that of a person holding party views of a decided character. The writer is professionally engaged as a servant of the Indian Government,—and it is no imputation on Mr. Campbell's independence to say that in many respects he is unable to divest himself of professional prejudices. Added to this, he must be told that he is not quite free from a fault which very much besets Indian civilians and officers,—namely, a strong disposition to treat as quacks and simpletons everybody who has not graduated in their particular circle.— His book, however, fairly fulfils its promise. It is in the widest sense of the term a sketch—a or India: and able one—of the civil government of India: and it would not be easy to name any publication of recent years which on the whole lays before the reader in the same compass so much information on most of the questions connected with the present state of that

Mr. Campbell holds very singular views on several subjects. Among the rest of his opin-ions, he thinks that the introduction of a free press into India was a mistake, and has been a failure,-and that the liberty granted by the last Charter to Europeans to reside and trade in the interior has produced little if any effect, the commerce of India not having profited in consequence to any great extent. He is—like consequence to any great extent. most Bengal civilians—unsparing in his abuse of Lord Ellenborough and Sir Charles Napier. He has an idea that capital is as cheap in the Upper Provinces as in England,—and he holds the doctrine that it is a mistake not to look on India, as a whole, as a country which may fairly be subjected to substantially the same regimen

of administration.

We entirely differ from Mr. Campbell on nearly all these points. The press was liberated from its previous censorship in 1835, during the brief rule of the late Lord (then Sir Charles) Metcalfe. The measure gave great offence to the Court of Directors; and both they and the Board of Control did everything that was possible to neutralize the liberty which had been given. But the step was a just and wise one,—and it has produced the most salutary results. The very reasons which have been and are urged against its adoption are perhaps the strongest which can be pleaded in its defence. It is said, that the Indian Government is a government of opinion :- and the answer is, then let opinion exert its proper influence through the medium of free discussion. It is said further, that representative institutions are impossible in India, and that the natives understand no kind of government which is not of an absolute character: — then, there is the more urgent necessity for the intervention of a power which by moral and persuasive means will tend to moderate the despotism that we are compelled to exercise. But it is argued again, that a free press will become licentious by libelling public servants when employed in

protect public servants from slander on the one hand, it is not permitted to screen them from fair and just animadversion on the other. We must protect character - not cover incompetency. We have no hesitation in affirming that the public press of India, taken as a whole, has fulfilled its mission honourably and well since the withdrawal of the censorship. Here and there outbursts of scurrility and violence have taken place,-but they have presently been discountenanced and forgotten. And we must recollect that within the circumscribed limit of Indian society, where everybody is perpetually chafing at the heat of the weather and bickering with his neighbour,-nearly all discussions assume a tone of tartness and personality which is almost unknown at home. What is called "the society" of Calcutta resembles much the population of a passenger ship which has been an immoderately long time on its voyage. They are tired of each other and of the limits within which they are confined,—and they behave accordingly. Feeling the force of this fact, we have often read with wonder the calm and philosophical tone in which the Friend of India reviews and discusses at the end of every week the events and questions which agitate the atmosphere around it; and if we were asked to point out any journal which has contributed in perhaps the most important degree to elevate the character of British Colonial Journalism, we should point to the newspaper published, by Mr. Marshman, at Serampore.

Mr. Campbell appears to us to misapprehend entirely the effect which has been produced in Bengal and other parts of India by the free introduction of European skill and capital during the last twenty years. Does he mean to say that if the last charter had continued the old policy of excluding all but servants of the Company from India, we should have seen the immense expansion which has taken place in every branch of the external commerce of that country?—Mr. Campbell's observations on this and some other kindred questions are unsatis-factory to the extent of being superficial, and contrast very unfavourably with the solid information contained in other parts of his volume.—The disparagement of Lord Ellenborough and of Sir Charles Napier is a weakness from which his good sense should have saved him. We are far from being the ultra defenders of either of these distinguished persons; but the people of this country are not to be persuaded that either Lord Ellenborough or Sir Charles Napier was no better than a

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The notion as to the abundance of capital in Bengal is a curious one. Mr. Campbell says that the Company's five per cent. loan bears a premium, and he seems to infer from this fact that the natural rate of interest in Calcutta is below five per cent. There cannot be a greater fallacy. The Company's loans are kept at a high price by the constant investment of the accumulated savings of the Government servants; and Mr. Campbell ought to know that the rates of discount charged by the Bank of Bengal on bills having only three months to run is often ten

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which is so close that it almost amounts to a corporation—or perhaps a dynasty. One generation after another of soldiers and civil servants rises up out of the same families-imbibes the same traditions-pursues the same studies-and keeps alive a certain kind of class doctrine and sentiment which, to say the very least, is suceptible of great improvement. At present everything is done to render an Indian cadet only half an Englishman. Our true policy points in a direc-tion exactly opposite. It is our interest and our duty to fill the ranks of the Indian services with men who carry out with them in the fullest extent the progressive ardour of our western civilization, — men drawn from every rank and station amongst us. Lord Grenville saw and felt the necessity of a policy of this nature forty years ago; and in his great speech on the charter of 1813 he proposed—and we must take care now to adopt the suggestion—that a certain number of Indian appointments should be set apart as prizes to be contended for in our great schools and public institutions. In adopting this idea, we must give effect to it in its spirit. We must take care that the sons of the poor as well as of the rich have a chance of reaching India as nominees of the Home Government.

The first three chapters of Mr. Campbell's book will probably be found to possess the most general interest. In these he gives an outline distinguished by great clearness and ability of the early history of India, and of its social condition at the period of our first conquests. We cannot venture to follow him into the wide and interesting questions which he raises with reference to the ethnology of some of the Indian tribes; but we are sensible of the value of the contributions which he has made to our knowledge of a large portion of the people of Upper India. Take, for instance, the following extract from his account of the Jats or Jits,-hitherto regarded even by our best authorities as a local and insignificant tribe.

"Elphinstone has entered on the question of the origin of the Rajpoots. Tod had shown the proba-bility of their western origin, and supposes them to be Scythians. Elphinstone admits that there is ground for supposing that some people emigrated into India. He speaks of the Jits or Jats as an inferior race in the Punjab, different from the Jats, as 'local tribe near Agra.' Assuredly the Jats are not a local tribe near Agra, but a far extended people such as I have described. The Jat chiefs of Bhurtpore, &c. intermarry with the Sikh chiefs of Sirhind, and they again with the Manjha Sikhs; and the people, far from being local to Agra, and occupying an inferior position in the Punjab, are spread over the whole intermediate distance, and are the dominant population of the greater part of the Punjab. In the farther Punjab and in Scinde the Mohammedan Jats are a scattered and deteriorated race: but I have made repeated inquiries, and never could discover that they are any separate people. The Jats are, as I have explained, in all essential characteristics, of the same family as the Rajpoots: they are but successive waves from the same source. The story of the descent of the Rajpoots from Khatree fathers and Soodra mothers was probably invented to justify their ad-mission into the Hindoo orders; the more, as they have perhaps absorbed and incorporated the Khatrees. But a great people was never formed from a mere illicit connection of this kind. 'Scythians' is a wide word, and the Rajpoots and Jats are certainly not the Mongol nomads described by Elphinstone; they are neither Mongol nor nomad. I make no doubt that they are of the same great races which overran and peopled Europe, and which are known to us as Germanic. There is a great similarity in many of their customs and institutions to the ancient Germans as described by Tacitus. Their political system, their leaders of limited authority, their capacity as infantry rather than cavalry soldiers, their agriculture, the constitution of their village communities, the common right to common lands and distribution of

it according to shares, the compensation of homicides by transfer of land, the exclusion of females from succession, the burning of dead bodies—all are points common to the two races. * * Kemble particularly marks the most notable points of the German character as distinguishing them from Celts, Scythians Arabs, and all others, and in all these points their identity with the Indian tribes is perfect. I have reserved for the next chapter a more particular account of the village community, and have not space to give it in great detail, but no one can peruse a full description of such a community and then Kemble's account of the 'Mark' without being satisfied that the resemblance is much more than accidental. The settlement of cognate families in a body_their peculiar constitution_their agricultural habits, combined with the possession of cattle—the division of arable lands—the common pasture land the rights and privileges of freemen—the position of inferiors_the council of markmen_the lord him self originally only first markman-and many other particulars, are all such that, the names being transposed, the whole chapter might be given as a most faithful and exact account of the Jats instead of the Saxons. I should say that, while the Bramins are of the kindred of the Greeks and Romans, the Rajpoots and Jats are of that of the barbarians

-The coincidence which Mr. Campbell points out between the institutions of the ancient Germans, as described by Mr. Kemble, and the native institutions actually existing in Upper India, is one of the highest interest,—and should lead to further investigation.

In the next extract Mr. Campbell gives one of the best accounts that we have ever seen of the primitive village system of India .-

" Each village then is one community, composed of a number of families, claiming to be of the same brotherhood or clan; and generally most of the villages in the same part of the country are of one tribe or subdivision of a tribe. Yet others are intermixed; and it often happens that a village may be made up of two or three separate divisions of different tribes, castes, or even religions, yet uniting for certain purposes. These then form a community, who assume and possess the strongest proprietary rights in the soil, and are not to be, nor almost ever are, dispossessed by any native government. They are, in a perfect village, almost the only professional cultivators. If a shopkeeper or labourer has obtained land to cultivate, he is generally considered as holding only on sufferance. Yet sometimes, by long possession, and the dying out of the original owners, a few such may have acquired a full right, and be recognized as adopted members of the community. The Government officers do not interfere directly in village matters, so long as the proprietors agree among themselves, but invariably treat with the communi ties as a body corporate, and as such transact all business with them through their representatives. They have a machinery by which they distribute all burdens, and are enabled to make engagements in common. Yet they do by no means 'enjoy to a great degree the community of goods' as Mill sup-I never knew an instance in which the cultivation was carried on in common, or in which any of the private concerns of the villagers were in any way in common; and I very much doubt the exis-tence of any such state of things. The whole land is the common property of all, and they have certain common responsibilities in return for common rights. But things are managed in this wise: every village is divided into a certain number of fixed portions called ploughs, but a plough is rather like an algebraical symbol to express a fixed share than a literal plough. The arable land then is divided into, say, for instance, sixty-four ploughs; a man may have one plough, or two ploughs, or a plough and a half, or three-quarters of a plough; all imposts, whether of government demand or of common expenses, are assessed at so much a plough, and each man pays accordingly. In the first instance, lands might be annually changed, after the fashion of the Germans, by way of guard-ing against inequalities, but since the communities have settled down the holdings are fixed, and he who

ment of holdings and payments, to rectify the in-equalities and alteration of boundaries which may gradually arise. The grazing-ground of each village is common to all; but the division between the is common to all; but the division between the grazing-grounds of different villages is very jealously maintained, and any uncertain or undecided boundary leads to very bloody affrays. When these cases were decided compensation was given to the heirs of those killed in the right, from the lands of those in the wrong. If fresh land is brought under cultivation, the standard has all the number of pleased. it may either be shared by all, the number of ploughs remaining the same, or, if all do not desire fresh land, certain members may by common consent be allowed to create fresh shares: say land equal to two ploughs is broken up, there are henceforth sixty-aix ploughs, and the imposts per plough are lightened to all. But when the grazing-ground is no larger than sufficient to afford pasture to the village cuttle, no one is permitted to break it up."

The following extract conveys a tolerably just idea of the principles of the greatest fiscal measure that we have hitherto undertaken in India,—and of perhaps the greatest and most difficult revenue settlement of modern times the organization of the land assessment of the North-western Provinces .-

"The Government, having now become sensible to the evils of the previous system, and aware of the rights of different parties, determined to devise a remedy, and to ascertain and put on a secure footing all tenures by a detailed survey, a settlement for a long period, and an investigation and registry of all With this view the well-known Regulation VII. of 1822 was enacted. It was the work of the Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie. It was intended to combine the advantages of the Ryotwar system with that of village leases. The land was to be minutely measured and classified, and rents, &c. were to be ascertained; all of which was to be registered for the thorough protection of the cultivator. But this done, Government was not to undertake direct dealings with each individual, but to settle with the proprietors, whether particular individuals or corporate communities, for a fixed sum, to be paid by each village. The assessment was to be formed after the manner of the system projected by Akber, on exact calculations of the quantity and value of grain produced by each description of soil, and to become a mere matter of arithmetic; and a liberal marginal profit was to be left to the proprietors between the gross rent and the revenue assessed, to cover their risk and create a valuable and marketable proprietary right, for it has been a great object throughout to create a valuable property in the land, which should be the security for payment of revenue, and afford the means of obtaining capital for improvements. The collector was also vested with judicial power to determine, in the first instance,—subject to appeal to the civil courts,—the nature of all landed tenures and rights, and to register them accordingly in great detail. Such was the scheme on which the present revenue administration of the North-west Provinces is on the main founded, and which is, in fact, that of Sher Shah and Akber, excepting this important difference, that, while they only settled with the cultivating communities, we have admitted in most instances middlemen as proprietors. But, unfor-tunately, its authors had neglected to provide the requisite machinery for its execution. It was found that the collectors, with their many duties, could not accomplish the details of many villages in many years, and for ten years the regulation was not rendered effective. At the end of that time Lord William Bentinck coming up the country, the thing was again seriously taken up, and Regulation IX. of 1833 was promulgated, under which the present settlements were made. Regulation VII. of 1822 is still the groundwork; but the new class of native deputy collectors was created, and through them most of the details of the settlement are carried out. Some further provisions for mapping, &c. were introduced, and the original plan for making assessments by pure arithmetical calculations was abandoned, as it was found that equitable assessments could not be thus obtained; and admitted that it must, after all, be invests in wells, &c., cannot be dispossessed. So much of the common right remains that the members may claim periodical remeasurements and re-adjust52

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t to con ppointed. the latter year the settlement was complete throughout the provinces twenty years after it was first designed. It was made at first for twenty, but has latterly been extended to thirty years in all cases. The origin of the tenures has been traced, and the The origin of the tenures has been traced, and the first changes by sale alluded to. During the last twenty years, the transfers by sale for arrears of revenue have been comparatively few. But there has been an immense change of property from the operation of the civil courts, and considerable private transfers. Land having been made weekers have transfers. Land having been made marketable and auctionable in execution of decrees, and our civil courts having given an immense advantage to creditors (who lend on exorbitant terms, on bad security, and realize from good security), for one sale for arrears of revenue, there are a hundred by order of the civil courts. Hence, in the North-west, as well as in Bengal, a great deal of landed property is now held as a mercantile speculation. It can always be bought in the market, and is a common investment of money. Still the old holdings have not by any means, as in Bengal, been altogether swept away; and this is their con-

In the last quotation which we shall make, we will permit Mr. Campbell to sum up—in language not on the whole open to much exception-what he conceives to have been the nature and results of the financial policy of the East India Company within their terri-

"In comparing our present revenue system with that of the former native Governments, it is to be ob-served, first, that we retain under different systems and modifications, the oldest, chiefest, and most proper revenue, that derived from the land; second, that we have abolished or altogether altered the character of almost all the other native imposts, the Sayer, the Moturpha, the transit duties, the large and heavy fines, and many other sources of income; and we have nnes, and many other sources of income; and we have established or increased other taxes on a different system in their place. Our principle has been to do away with all local imposts, and to substitute general imperial sources of revenue. We have succeeded. Our salt, customs, and excise receipts probably give us a proportion of extra income, in addition to the proper land revenue, nearly as great as that realized by native Governments, while the accident of our by have Governments, while the accident of our being enabled to derive a very large income from a duty on opium paid by the Chinese makes it, I should think, considerably larger. It may be safely said, too, that while the extra revenue is greater, it presses less severely on the people than under the old system. The salt is an impost which falls on them much more heavily than before, but it is not by any means an equivalent to the many things remitted to them. The customs and stamps press less heavily than the ancient transit duties and judicial fees and bribes; and the opium and excise taxes are by no means injurious, but rather beneficial, to the people from whom they are raised.—Lastly, it may be observed that our system has been more completely introduced in all the people from the completely introduced in the complete of the introduced in all the Bengal Presidency, and less so in Madras and Bombay. —In comparing the revenue system with that of other countries, what most strikes one is, the very small amount of taxation on individuals, and the almost entire absence of any direct taxation. In fact, submissive as the country may seem, it is undoubtedly the case, that any direct taxes to which the people are unaccustomed would be met with the most determined and probably successful opposition, as is shown by the great resistance to the only little direct tax for local purposes ever imposed, that for watchmen in towns. The land imposed, that for watchmen in towns. The land revenue, fairly assessed, is paid without hardship, because it is an ancient due, and is not looked on as a tax, but as the rent or portion of rent ab initio
reserved for the purposes of Government, and never
the property of individuals. The salt, customs, excise,
and opium are all indirect taxes on Hindoos or Chinese, which we may levy without serious resistance. But direct taxes are out of our power. Attempt to levy an income tax, and there would be a resistance

in our strictures on his present publication. We have no hesitation in saying, that he has produced one of the best and most useful books ever written in elucidation of the intricacies of our Indian administration. But his strength lies, we repeat, in the narration of events which he has witnessed and the description of arrangements and circumstances with which he is familiar. We must once more guard the public against placing equal reliance on Mr. Campbell's opinions as on his facts; and while we congratulate the author on what he has done, we advise him not to imagine that he has by any means attained to perfection.

Robert Blake: Admiral and General at Sea. By Hepworth Dixon. Chapman & Hall.

AFTER all that has been written about the eventful history of the seventeenth century in England, the subject still presents an apparently inexhaustible source of human interest. Nor is it difficult to understand why people yet like to study the transactions that took place between the death of James the First and the expulsion of James the Second. The interest of the events is essentially moral;—for the subsequent history of a large portion of the human race was affected by the final triumph, after many perils, of English liberty. However a certain school of historical inquirers may affect to decry the impor-tance of the events of the English Revolution, the labours in reference to it of MM. Guizot, Villemain, and Armand Carrel in our own time, and the interest attached by President Jefferson and the leaders of the American Revolution to its events, are sufficient attestation to the widespreading results consequent on the great drama acted in this island between the impeachment of Strafford and the flight of James at the Boyne. The era abounded, too, in a host of characters who did not fall below the level of the time. While the historian and the philosopher have narrated and moralized on its events,-the manners and social spirit of the period, and its innumerable romantic episodes, have given subjects to the novelist, and will probably long continue to supply him with a background on which to weave his fanciful creations.

How much has still been left for the historical artist to treat of in that eventful time may be inferred from the simple fact, that the volume before us is the first elaborate attempt to furnish a biography of Blake:—a man whose fame is dear to English memory as that of at once a mighty sea captain and a patriot of spotless reputation. It is not unjustly that in one of his noblest odes the poet Campbell has coupled him with the hero of Trafalgar—

Where Blake and mighty Nelson fell. In the long line of our maritime worthies it would be difficult to name any naval hero who comes nearer to the Nelson sandard than Blake. His, like Nelson's, was that calm daring which shrinks from no danger, and ventures on almost incredible exploits without frenzy or Quixotic inspi-While his deeds spread the terror of his name over the seas, he never dreamed of personal aggrandizement,—but dedicated his sword to his country whether it were ruled by a Parliament or by the Protector. In his love of duty as distinct from the passion for fame, in the quiet homeliness of his simple and right manly nature, we are fain to discover the presence of those qualities which we are proud to call English. Nor can it be said, though his life

with no other duties. A great man, Mr. R. M.
Bird, member of the Board of Revenue, arose to
arry through the settlement. Its progress, as it
advanced, became accelerated, and from 1838 to
1842 one district after another was finished, till in

We have no hesitation in saying, that he

Mr. Dixon's powers of description render him well suited for biographic labours,—as his Lives of 'Howard' and 'Penn' have already demonstrated. Though belonging to the artistic school of writers who aim chiefly at effect, tistic school of writers who aim chiefly at effect, he has great energy of research,—and evidently takes an antiquary's pleasure in beating up old papers and hunting through archives. His style, though florid and too prone to ornamental prettiness of phrase, is not diffuse. As we have said in noticing former works of his,—he has skill in avancting and converging his actual. skill in arranging and compressing his materials. He is somewhat inclined to make too great parade of his researches—and, like other biographers, to exaggerate the value of facts which may have cost him trouble to collect. His merits are those more of the artist than of the archæologist,—though he possesses in a considerable degree the qualities of the latter. A certain sentimental cast of mind, ready feeling, and graceful fluency of expression are among the materials by which he is furnished for biographic labours.

In the volume now before us, Mr. Dixon shows improvement in his style. It is more equable and less florid than in his previous writings,—and suggests the idea that his narrative capacity would suit an historical subject. Yet we have not read his life of Blake, graphic though it be, with as much interest as his work on William Penn. The reason is obvious at a glance. Though Blake was a greater man than Penn,-the domestic and private life of the latter, the charming episodes of the Springett family, the village of Chalfont, and the scenes in Pennsylvania gave a strong psychological interest to the portraiture of the latter chief. On the other hand, the rather austere character of Blake, and the fact of his individualism being merged in the vast transactions of his being merged in the vast transactions of his career, render him a somewhat intractable subject for biography. Mr. Dixon has, however, used his materials with skill,—and has made the subject various and interesting. He has collected family papers from the Admiral's descendants,—visited Bridgewater, and gathered sundry memorials of importance for his object. sundry memorials of importance for his object. He has got possession of a manuscript history of the siege of Lyme, and used it with great effect; and amongst the many stirring passages of Blake's famous career, his gallant defence of Taunton as told by Mr. Dixon is one of the most exciting. While reading this, our horror of civil war, and our aspiration that Englishmen may never again be found in arms against each

other, are quickened by the following passage.—
"The town itself presented a most deplorable aspect. For many miles round, the country, once like a rich and cultivated garden, interspersed with orchards, nursery-grounds, and water meadows, was a dreary desert. The corn had been cut down green—fruit-trees destroyed in mere wantonness—barns and mills had been emptied of their contents—farm-bayes, presents and houses ransacked and burnt — the peasants and farmers driven with insult and violence from their homesteads. The relieving army noticed with horror that between St. Nicholas and Taunton they marched for half a day without seeing a single human creature or one human habitation standing, in the most popu-lous and wealthy district of provincial England! In the immediate suburbs of the devoted town the work of destruction had been done completely:—there all was black, grim, and ugly ruin. The streets of the town proper had all suffered, more or less, up to the church on one side, and to those of the castle on another. A third of the entire number of houses in the town ance. But direct taxes are out of our power. Attempt has not heretofore been adequately written, that to levy an income tax, and there would be a resistance such as few governments have experienced in Europe. and Hume have written with fervent admiration lery. Blake had the proud satisfaction to feel that

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he had kept his ground; but towards the end of his year of hard fighting, he was master of little more than a heap of rubbish."

The union of moral character and martial prowess is the distinctive feature of Blake's renown. In reading of his career we are frequently reminded of Washington. There were many points in common between them,—though Washington's capacity for civil affairs was unquestionably higher. Mr. Dixon calls his hero "the Puritan Sea King." The phrase is pretty and fanciful; but after having read Mr. Dixon's elaborate biography, we must object to Blake's being at all sectarianized. In his views of politics and religion his tone was more broad, calm, and rational than the word "puritan" would imply. He was a great Englishman,—with deep convictions of his own, but above sect and party in opinion. Mr. Dixon well describes him.—

"Unlike so many of the selfish officers who had hitherto been his rivals in glory and public service, when the King's cause was lost, and the King himself was become a prisoner, he made no attempt to throw himself into the centre of intrigues or to use his great influence in the West for his personal advancement. With a true Roundhead contempt for wealth and the dazzling prizes laid open to the ambition of genius in troubled times, he remained at his post, doing his duty, humbly and faithfully, at a distance from Westminster; while other men with less than half his claims were asking and obtaining the highest honours and rewards from a grateful and lavish country. A sincere Republican, it was his wish to see the nation settled on the solid basis of a religious commonwealth; but though his principles were stern, his practical politics were all essentially moderate. That, at any period after the sword was drawn and blood had actually been shed in the quarrel, he would willingly have treated with the King, as King, is doubtful; but after Charles's refusal of the terms offered for his acceptance while he was still with the Scottish army, it is certain that Blake no longer entertained a thought of maintaining the monarchy in his person. The whole town of which he was representative and governor, he at its head, prayed the House never to make peace or receive proposals from the perjured sovereign, but to continue the war even to an end, so as to obtain a firm and lasting settlement of religion and public quiet-pledging themselves to support Parliament in this course of action to the last drop of their blood. Yet this patriotic zeal did not blind him to the suggestions of justice and true policy. The proceedings of the army-chiefs after Charles fell into their hands gave him great annoyance. Like Algernon Sidney, the younger Vane, and other of the wiser or more moderate men, he wished to see the King deposed and banished. He deprecated even the appearance of illegality and violence; and when he found the party of which Cromwell was the inspiring genius on his trial and execution, he loudly expressed his discontent at their proceedings, and under the influence of his humane convictions, declared openly that he would as freely venture his life to save the King as ever he had done to serve the Parliament. He considered Cromwell violent and illogical in his desire to put the King to death, and he stated that as his deliberate opinion. But he never professed to think the question of what should be done with the faithless King other than one of mere policy and detail. In the idea of founding in England great religious commonwealth, he concurred with all his soul. What else was left? He had seen monarchy, in what was then considered its best form. produce only falsehood, tyranny, spiritual intolerance and moral debauchery:—he wished therefore to try the experiment of a democracy founded on religious principles. Yet, overriding all his private theories and desires, there reigned in his heart the strong sense of patriotic devotion. Covetous of glory, but sense or patrious devotion. Covetous of glory, but free from the lower vices which often grow up in the neighbourhood of that noble passion, his thought by day, his dream by night, was how he could still be useful to his beloved country, and to those great Protestant and liberal principles for which she had sacrificed her domestic peace, and poured out her

best blood in torrents. An opening for a new and glorious career soon offered itself at sen, and the appointment of the hero of Taunton to the chief naval command—whether, as has often been conjectured, the motive had its origin in Cromwell's wish to remove so powerful and incorruptible an officer from the acene of his own intrigues, or in the general belief of the parliamentary chiefs that his executive genius, dauntless valour, and unvarying good fortune would be as conspicuously displayed in his naval as in his military exploits,—it was one of the most important events in that age, and opened a new and most brilliant era in the history of the British navy."

A whole chapter of this work is very properly devoted to Blake's redoubtable adversary, Van Tromp;—but we must refer our readers to Mr. Dixon's vigorous description of the renowned sea fights of these two chiefs. We prefer to extract some of those passages which describe the moral character of Blake. Here we have

a picture of him in his private life,-When absent from his political and professional duties, it was his delight to run down to Bridgwater for a few days or weeks, and with his chosen books and one or two devout and abstemious friends, to indulge in all the luxuries of seclusion. He was by nature self-absorbed and taciturn. A long walk during which he appeared to his simple neighbours to be lost in profound thought, as if working out in his own mind the details of one of his great battles, or busy with some abstruse point of Puritan theology usually occupied his morning. If accompanied by one of his brothers or by some other intimate friend he was still for the most part silent. Good-humoured always, and enjoying sarcasm when of a grave, high class, he yet never talked from the loquacious instinct, or encouraged others so to employ their time and talents in his presence. Even his lively and rattling brother Humphrey, his almost constant companion when on shore, caught, from long habit, the great man's contemplative and self-communing gait and manner; and when his friends rallied him on the subject in after-years, he used to say that he had caught the trick of silence while walking by the Admiral's side in his long morning musings on Knoll hill. A plain dinner satisfied his wants. Religious conversation, reading and the details of business, generally filled up the evening until supper-time; after family prayers, always pronounced by the Converse historical converse and a function of the converse historical converse and a function of the converse historical con General himself, and a frugal supper, he would invariably call for his cup of sack and a dry crust of bread, and while he drank two or three horns of Canary, would smile and chat in his own dry manner with his friends and domestics, asking minute questions about their neighbours and acquaintance; or when scholars or clergymen shared his simple repast, affecting a droll anxiety, rich and pleasant in the conqueror of Tromp, to prove by the aptness and abundance of his quotations that, in becoming an admiral, he had not forfeited his claim to be consi dered a good classic."

Blake's sense of duty to the public at the expense even of fraternal feeling was painfully tried by his being compelled to bring his brother to a court-martial.

One unhappy incident had occurred to dash this great public triumph with a private grief. His brother Humphrey, removed from the Board of Prizes to the command of a frigate, saw his first real service in this most trying engagement, and in a moment of extreme agitation failed in his duty. After the muster-call in the offing, whispers began to circulate through the fleet that the General's brother had not done his part like an English captain. and certain voices accused him openly of cowardice. Humphrey seems to have been one of those jovial, plastic and good-natured men whom every one likes and no one respects. Only a few months in the fleet, he was already a favourite with his brother officers; and when the accusation first arose against him, they tried to stifle it, and by every means in their power sought to prevent the affair from coming under the notice of a court-martial. But the great Admiral was inexorable. Humphrey was his favourite brother; he was the next to him in age, and he had been his chief playfellow in boyhood; when on shore he always shared with him his house his table and his leisure; but above and before all

private affection for this favourite brother rose up in is mind the stern sense of public duty. For it had been his office to purge that navy of all un-godly, unfaithful and inefficient officers with a rigorou hand; and how could be spare and a body, and blood? The captains went to him in a body, and blood? The captains went to him that Humphrey's fault hand; and how could he spare his own flesh was a neglect rather than a breach of duty; and that the ends of justice would be met without the disgrace of a public sentence. They ventured to suggest that without taking formal notice of the scandal which was abroad in the fleet, he might be sent away to England until his fault was forgotten. Blake le England until his fault was begotten.

grave and angry. They nevertheless pressed their suit, believing that nature itself would prevent a failure of their application. They appealed to his private affection—they glanced at the offenders. want of experience at sea. But it was all to no pur-pose. Blake answered that his first duty was to the service. Their very reasoning proved more clearly that this was not a case which could be allowed to pass into a precedent; and, at the conclusion of the interview, he ordered a court-martial to be summoned. 'If none of you,' said he, 'will accuse him, I must myself be his accuser.' The officers forming the court could only give one sentence on the evidence laid before them; but they sent with it a petition, signed by the entire court, to their Admiral, praying him to remit the sentence, and allow the culprit to return to England in his own ship. This pri was granted, as it would have been in any ordin case; but the Commander added to the painful door. ment the stern words_'He shall never be employed more.' Yet to the brother thus sternly rebuked, he left the greater part of his property."

Of the incident here recorded the biographer makes artistic use in appealing to our sympathies with the dying admiral.—

"But the hero's health was now failing fast, The xcitement of Santa Cruz had fearfully augmented his disorders; his attached friends could see that he was nigh to death; and the dismissal of his brother had therefore been a most severe addition of sacrifice to his stern sense of duty. Confined to his cabin by sickness, he began to feel the whole loneliness of his Humphrey had been his companion from a child. No one clung to him like his brother Humphrey; no one knew so much of his inward life; no one was possessed so thoroughly of his though and opinions on all subjects; no one had learned to conform to his habits so completely as this favourite. Few commanders have ever won so entirely the love. devotion, adoration of their officers and men. It was an article of faith for the captains to believe in his genius and fortune. The common sailors would have leaped into the sea, orrushed into the cannon's mouth to have gained a word of approbation from his lips. But the brother's place by the sick bed could not be supplied by any stranger to his blood. For himself, his work was nearly done. And he was most anxious, if God were willing, to go home, and die in his native town. He had his country's express permission to return should he think it useful to the service; but it lay on his conscience to perform other task before he quitted for ever the seas in which he had kept this glorious watch; and that was to pay a second visit to Salee, and compel the Mooriah Corsairs to restore the Christian captives to their freedom, and enter into a treaty of peace with England. This was his last, and, in the opinion of his biographer, his most illustrious action."

Blake's dying in sight of land was a pathetic termination of his career. Mr. Dixon thus records the hero's dying hour.—

"This crowning act of a virtuous and honourable life accomplished, the dying Admiral turned his thoughts anxiously towards the green hills of his native land. The letter of Cromwell, the thanks of Parliament, the jewelled ring sent to him by a admiring country,—all reached him together out at sea. These tokens of grateful remembrance causel him a profound emotion. Without after-thought, without selfish impulse, he had served the Commowealth day and night, carnestly, anxiously and with rare devotion. England was grateful to her her. With the letter of thanks from Cromwell, a new set of instructions arrived, which allowed him to return with part of his fleet, leaving a squadron of some

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fifteen or twenty frigates to ride before the Bay of Cadiz and intercept its traders; with their usual of Canz and intercept its traders; with their usual deference to his judgment and experience, the Pro-tector and Board of Admiralty left the appointment of the command entirely with him; and as his gallant friend Stayner was gone to England, where he re-ceived a knighthood and other well-won honours ceived a knighthood and other well-won honours from the Government, he raised Captain Stoaks, the hero of Porto Ferino, and a commander of rare pro-mise, to the responsible position of his Vice-admiral in the Spanish seas. Hoisting his pennon on his old flag-ship the St. George, Blake saw for the last time the spires and cupolas, the masts and towers, before which he had kept his long and victorious vigils. While he put in for fresh water at Cascaes road he was very weak. 'I beseech God to strengthen him,' was the fervent prayer of the English resident at Lisbon, as he departed on the homeward voyage.
While the ships rolled through the tempestuous waters of the Bay of Biscay, he grew every day worse and worse. Some gleams of the old spirit broke forth as they approached the latitude of England. He inquired often and anxiously if the white cliffs were with sight. He longed to behold the swelling downs, the free cities, the goodly churches of his native land. But he was now dying beyond all doubt. Many of his favourite officers silently and mournfully crowded round his bed, anxious to catch the last tones of a voice which had so often called them to glory and victory. Others stood at the poop and forecastle, eagerly examining every speck and line on the horizon, in hope of being first to catch the welcome glimpse of land. Though they were coming home crowned with laurels, gloom and pain were in every face. At last the Lizard was announced. Shortly afterwards the bold cliffs and bare hills of Cornwall loomed out grandly in the distance. But it was now too late for the dying hero. He had sent for now too late for the dying hero. He had sent for the captains and other great officers of his fleet to bid them farewell; and while they were yet in his cabin, the undulating hills of Devonshire, glowing with the tints of early autumn, came full in view. As the ships rounded Rame Head, the spires and masts of Plymouth, the woody heights of Mount Edgecombe, the low island of St. Nicholas, the rocky steeps of the Hoe, Mount Batten, the citadel, the many nictures of and families features of that ware. many picturesque and familiar features of that magmifeent harbour rose one by one to sight. But the eyes which had so yearned to behold this scene once more were at that very instant closing in death. Foremost of the victorious squadron, the St. George rode with its precious burden into the Sound; and just as it came into full view of the eager thousands crowding the beach, the pier-heads, the walls of the citadel, or darting in countless boats over the smooth waters between St. Nicholas and the docks, ready to catch the first glimpse of the hero of Santa Cruz, and salute him with a true English welcome,—he, in his silent cabin, in the midst of his lion-hearted comrades, now sobbing like little children, yielded up his soul to God."

There are a variety of passages in this volume which prove Mr. Dixon's power of depicting "the topographical picturesque." He sketches old towns and the features of a country with graphic force. For these and many other passages of able description our readers must turn to the work itself.—We suggest to the author the propriety of his giving, when his book reaches another edition, an appendix, with some excerpts and pièces justificatives for the beaefit of fellow labourers in the same historical field. The pedigree of the Blake family is not (so far as we are aware) in print; and as Mr. Dixon has it with other family papers in his possession, he might as well publish it.

Queen Philippa's Golden Booke. Hall, Virtue & Co.

The writer in masquerade who has told this pretty Hexameron need not be afraid of dropping "false face," as the Scotch call a mask, and domino—and of coming out as a singer or songstress in his or her own personality and costume. It would be easier, moreover, to win a success in almost any original form than as a close copyist of Chaucer,—which the scribe of Queen

Philippa's Golden Booke' is. How Chinese is the imitation the following extract will sufficiently exhibit.—

There flourished a lady at that time, In Palestine, countesse of Tripolis, Whose name was heard in every Jongleur's rhyme, Coupled with all that sweet and praiseful is. She was the dame most noted of that clime; Virtue, and wit, and sense, did all unite To glorify her spotless beauty bright.

She did to emulation provoke

She did to emulation provoke
The Trouveurs in their art; and many a rhyme,
In the sweet Langue d'oui and Langue d'oc,
Of her subtile conceit euriched the time.
All modern tongues with readiness she spoke,
And had some skill, if travellers told true,
In Arabic; and well the Latin tongue she knew.

She was well versed in the Leech's art,
And could dress wounds with light and tender hand;
And wist what virtue Herbes could impart
That, ready to our use, grow in lik land:
Vervain and crowfoot she did understand
Tapply aright; and pimperuel and thyme,
All-heal, and more than now befit my rhyme.

It should have been already stated that the framework of these six tales is found in Queen Philippa's chamber of convalescence; where certain of her court assemble to entertain their ailing mistress, after the fashion of Scheherazade. In some of the legends will be found a pretty slyness or covert satire, befitting the tone of a palace, -where even Virtue must not appear un-presented, -and good morals without sacque, hoop and sword would be put to the door by my Lord Etiquette, the Chamberlain. As an instance, we may mention "Queen Elinor at Laodicea," in which a fine lesson is read to travelling Queens on their love of gossiping, finery and easy living.—'The Lone Thorp' opens with a picture of another quality,-too much elaborated, perhaps, but still meritorious in the matters of form and colour .-

rated, perhaps, but still meritorious in the matters of form and colour.—

Within the mem'ry, as I understand, of certain persons living in this land, A lonely, ancient Thorp or Farm-house stood On a removéd Waste, hard by a Wood. To finden it, ye'd leave a certain town, An' trace a certain by-road half-way down, Till that ye came where sundry tracks did met At an old Cross, beknempt by Pligrims' feet; There, ye would take the road that, by its bend, Seemed least to promise at the journey's end; An' keep the same, across a blighted Heath, Broad Sky above and prickly Gorse beneath, Until the road, or what seemed such before, Became two ruts of water, and no more; An' so unto a kind of swamp or slough With prints of men and horses' feet enough, An' up the other side, worn bare an' brown, O'er e'er so many hillocks, up an' down, With growth of pigmy Rose-trees overspread, That bare a weath of Roses, swhite an' ret; Next, to a Warren, where ye would behold Scores of grey Rabbits, each at his threshold Looking full wise, till that ye did begin T' appear, when he'd turn tail, an' straight run in. Here ye might note Mole-crickets not a few, An' piping Saipe, an' clamouring Curlew. Then, to a tangled Brake, that by degrees Wasëd a growth confus' of forest trees. Yielding o'erhead a dimmish, broken light; Or shadowy glades, that stretched out of sight. The straight, white Beech, besprent with silvery green, And lither Ash, the sober shades between Of rugged Oaks, with gnarrêd trunks and old, Contorted into symbols manifold of Faun an' Satyr, grimly an' grotesque, Like what the Saraccas call arabesque. Ne, in those Brakes, with woodland beings rife, Lacked there mystic sounds of uneaen Life From Nuthatch, Thrush, an' Ousel, Ring-dove, Jay, An' touter one that cree, "Be quick, be quick, be quick !" An' touter one that cree, "Be quick, be quick, be quick !" An' touter one that cree, "Be quick, be quick, be quick !" An' touter one that cree, "Be quick, be quick, en An' Souter, careding nuts securely.

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Perchance from oaten pipe of lazy Fan.

While wandering this sylvan wild about,
Ye unawares would suddenly come out
Upon an open space, cleared long ago,
Counting two hundred acres an' no mo',
Where stretched a Thorp o'er near a rood of ground,
An' here an' there had buttresses of brick
That needed were, albe they were so thick,
To prop the heavy Roofs, that, spreaden wide,
Like mighty Tents, sloped down to like side,
Garnisht with Startings' nests and yellow Moss,
That every nodding gable did emboss.
There were old shedls, and casements jutting out
On like hand, with Stone-crop set about;
And Swallows in the chimney-stacks an' caves
Twittered the living summer 'mong the leaves.

There was a straggling piece of garden-ground Hard by the Thorp, with ivied stakes around, Containing herbes of untidy growth That did betoken less of care than sloth; Leeks, Colewort, Tansy, Rosemary, an' Rue, An' here an' there a Cherry-tree or two, Where Pies an' Chewitts did divide the spoil Unfairly with the owners of the soil.

The lines marked by us in italics will sufficiently indicate to every experienced eye the places where the "nippit foot and the clippit foot" of the modern poet peeps out from under the old-fashioned disguise. The above rural scene, we need hardly add, is not up to the Chaucer mark -though parts of it might have been touched by that pleasant observer of nature, Anne, Countess of Winchelsea. - After all, the trick of producing imitations such as the above is not difficult. The Byronism of the Smiths was very nearly as good as Byron's own,-but could either Horace or James have originated 'Childe Harold' or 'Manfred'? The author of 'Queen Philippa's Golden Booke' must doff "all lendand appear in his own person, ere he can be ranged among the poets major, minor, or minnow, of England.

History of Greece. By George Grote, Esq. Vols. IX. and X. Murray.

These two volumes of Mr. Grote's work carry on the general history of Greece through a period of forty-four years, extending from B.c. 404 to B.c. 360. Nearly one-half of the first volume, however, is occupied with the narration of what is properly only an episode in Grecian History,—the Expedition and Retreat of the Ten Thousand Greeks; while the conclud-ing chapters of the second volume contain a retrospective sketch of the progress of events in Sicily from the close of the Athenian siege of Syracuse (B.C. 413) to the period of the complete supremacy of Dionysius the Tyrant (B.c. 394). Thus, the two volumes consist of three distinct portions :- the story of the Expedition and Retreat of the Ten Thousand Greek mercenaries, - the consecutive narrative of the history of Greece Proper and the Peloponnesus, from B.c. 404 to B.c. 360,—and a fragment (left incomplete on account of the bulk to which the second volume had already extended) of Græco-Sicilian History during the same period. This evident divisibility of the volumes into three parts suggests a question, which we are not sure that a glance backward at the previous volumes might not have raised,-namely, whether Mr. Grote might not with advantage have adopted, as intermediate between his division of the work into Parts and his subdivision of it into Chapters, a distribution of it into Books. The question, however, is a difficult one; and probably, in a work of such magnitude, the author's arrangement according to a numerical succession of long chapters is the least confusing to the reader. In any case, Mr. Grote has so clear a prevision of what has yet to come, and masses out his matter so distinctly, that the successive parts of the History are deposited in the reader's mind exactly in their true relations and in their just proportions.

Mr. Grote's account of the Expedition and Retreat of the Ten Thousand Greeks is as admirable a specimen of narrative writing as we remember to have read in any history of ancient times by a modern writer. Should it occur to any one that this splendid episode in Grecian History has been once for all narrated in the 'Anabasis' of Xenophon, and that a translation of that work would be sufficient to put the episode fairly and completely before the Euglish reader in all its bearings, an actual examination of Mr. Grote's treatment of it will dissipate the notion. While our author embodies the main particulars of Xenophon's account, throwing on these what light is to be

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derived from modern geographical research,there are certain aspects of the whole story necessarily concealed from Xenophon or any other contemporary author, yet historically most important, which Mr. Grote has brought out so studiously and systematically as to give to his narrative an interest quite additional to what is involved in the mere romance of the incidents themselves. In short, the peculiarity of Mr. Grote's treatment of the story of the Retreat of the Ten Thousand consists in this,that he views the entire adventure as an illus tration of the superiority of the Hellenic character, the effects of which were prodigious at the time, and were felt in all subsequent relations between the Greeks and the Orientals. A small band of Greeks, collected out of the various Grecian states, enter into the service of a Persian prince, -and are inveigled by him into an enterprise which leads them far away from the Grecian territories into unknown lands and into the very heart of Oriental populations; there, in the very moment of victory, they are left without a cause and without a leader,—yet instantly, by force of those faculties and habits which were their birthright as Greeks, they form themselves into a kind of marching-community - begin their retreat in the midst of beleaguering hostscontinue it, without chart or compass, through all manner of difficulties for a whole weary year -and at last bring themselves out safe and victorious on the confines of the settlements of their own countrymen. The impression of this astonishing feat, as a revelation of Persian weakness, and a proof of the innate capacity of the Greeks both for military enterprise and for social cohesion and invention in new circumstances, cannot but have been immense; and it is a great merit in Mr. Grote's work to have fastened attention upon it in this peculiar point of view. The remarks with which he closes the narrative will indicate the spirit in which it is

"To the contemporary world, the retreat, which Xenophon so successfully conducted, afforded a far impressive lesson than any of his literary compositions. It taught in the most striking manner the impotence of the Persian land-force, manifested not less in the generals than in the soldiers. It proved that the Persian leaders were unfit for any systematic operations, even under the greatest possible advan-tages, against a small number of disciplined warriors resolutely bent on resistance; that they were too stupid and reckless even to obstruct the passage of rivers, or destroy roads, or cut off supplies. It more than confirmed the contemptuous language applied to them by Cyrus himself, before the battle of Kunaxa; when he proclaimed that he envied the Greeks their freedom, and that he was ashamed of the worthlessness of his own countrymen. Against such perfect weakness and disorganization, nothing prevented the success of the Greeks along with Cyrus, except his own paroxysm of fraternal antipathy. we shall perceive hereafter the military and political leaders of Greece—Agesilaus, Jason of Phere, and others, down to Philip and Alexander— firmly persuaded that with a tolerably numerous and well-appointed Grecian force, combined with exemption from Grecian enemies, they could succeed in overthrowing or dismembering the Persian empire This conviction, so important in the subsequent history of Greece, takes its date from the retreat of the Ten Thousand. We shall indeed find Persia exercising an important influence, for two generations to come_and at the peace of Antalkidas an influence stronger than ever-over the destinies of Greece. But this will be seen to arise from the treason of Sparta, the chief of the Hellenic world, who abandons the Asiatic Greeks, and even arms herself with the name and the force of Persia, for purposes of aggrandisement and dominion to herself. Persia is strong by being enabled to employ Hellenic strength against the Hellenic cause; by lending money or a fleet to one side of the Grecian intestine parties, and thus becoming artificially strengthened against both.

But the Xenophontic Anabasis betrays her real weakness against any vigorous attack; while it at the same time exemplifies the discipline, the endurance, the power of self-action and adaptation, the susceptibility of influence from speech and discussion, the combination of the reflecting obedience of citizens with the mechanical regularity of soldiers—which confer such immortal distinction on the Hellenic character. The importance of this expedition and retreat, as an illustration of the Hellenic qualities and excellence, will justify the large space which has been devoted to it in this History."

More special, but no less important, than this view of the Retreat of the Ten Thousand as an illustration of the superiority of the Hellenic character, is the view, also prominently brought out by Mr. Grote, of the significance of the same exploit as illustrating, in the person of its hero and leader, Xenophon, the relation of the Athenian genius in particular to the Greek character in general, and the natural and inevitable fitness of the Athenian mind, in certain given combinations of circumstances, to start out and take the lead among other Greeks. Xenophon was an Athenian,—not, perhaps, a man of the highest Athenian faculty, whether as an officer or as a politician,—but still exhibiting, in fine balance, all the typical Athenian qualities, and especially combining, as the Athenians did more remarkably than any other of the Grecian communities, literary culture and the power of persuasive speech with trained habits as a citizen and a soldier. Now, according to Mr. Grote, it was precisely by means of these Athenian qualities, and, above all, by his Athenian power of speech, that Xenophon was able to inspire among his fellows in the Retreat that confidence which made them vote him their leader; and it was precisely by these qualities, again and again exerted,-and exerted in emergencies when all the stern vigour of his Spartan colleagues, acting even on Spartan materials, would have been of no avail,—that he was able to bring so desperate an adventure to a successful issue. Few portions of the first of the volumes now before us are more interesting than those in which Mr. Grote expounds this cardinal feature of the 'Anabasis, considered as a specially Hellenic phenomenon. We present a few of the most important sentences in connexion .-

" Xenophon was comparatively a young man, with little military experience:-he was not an officer at all, either in the first or second grade, but simply a volunteer, companion of Proxenus: -he was more over a native of Athens, a city at that time unpopular among the great body of Greeks, and especially of Peloponnesians, with whom her recent long war had Peloponnesians, with whom her recent long was made been carried on. Not only therefore he had no advantages compared with others, but he was under positive disadvantages. He had nothing to start with except his personal qualities and previous training; in spite of which we find him not merely the prime mover, but also the ascendent person for whom the others make way. In him are exemplified those peculiarities of Athens, attested not less by the denunciation of her enemies than by the panegyric of her own citizens,-spontaneous and forward impulse, as well in conception as in execution-confidence under circumstances which made others despair persuasive discourse and publicity of discussion, made subservient to practical business, so as at once to appeal to the intelligence, and stimulate the active zeal, of the multitude. Such peculiarities stood out more remarkably from being contrasted with the opposite qualities in Spartans-mistrust in conception, slackness in execution, secrecy in council, silent and passive obedience. Though Spartans and Athenians formed the two extremities of the scale, other Greeks stood nearer on this point to the former than to the latter. If, even in that encouraging autumn which followed immediately upon the great Athenian catastrophe before Syracuse, the inertia of Sparta could not be stirred into vigorous action without the vehemence of the Athenian Alkibiades-much more was it necessary under the depressing circumstances

which now overclouded the unofficered Grecian army that an Athenian bosom should be found as the source of new life and impulse. Nor would any one, probably, except an Athenian, either have felt or obeyed the promptings to stand forward as a volunteer at that moment, when there was every motive to decline responsibility, and no special duty to impel him. But if by chance, a Spartan or an Arcadian had been found thus forward, he would have been destitute of such talents as would enable him to work on the minds of others of that flexibility, resource, familiarity with the temper and movements of an assembled crowd, power of enforcing the essential views and touching the opportune chords, which Athenian democratical training imparted. Even Bra-sidas and Gylippus, individual Spartans of splendid merit, and equal or superior to Xenophon in military resource, would not have combined with it that political and rhetorical accomplishment which the posi-tion of the latter demanded. * * Other Greeks, Lacedemonians, or Arcadians could act with bravery and in concert; but the Athenian Xenophon was among the few who could think, speak, and act with equal efficiency. It was this tripartite accomplishment which an aspiring youth was compelled to set before himself as an aim, in the democracy of Athens, and which the Sophists as well as the democratical institutions, both of them so hardly depreciated, helped and encouraged him to acquire. It was this tripartite accomplishment, the exclusive possession of which, in spite of constant jealousy on the part of Bootian officers and comrades of Proxenus, elevated Xenophon into the most ascendent person of the Cyreian army, from the present moment until the time when it broke up,—as will be seen in the subsequent history. I think it the more necessary to notice this fact, — that the accomplishments whereby Xenophon leaped on a sudden into such extraordinary ascendency, and rendered such eminent service to his army, were accomplishments belonging in an especial manner to the Athenian democracy and education - because Xenophon himself has throughout his writings treated Athens not merely without the attachment of a citizen, but with feelings more like the positive antipathy of an exile. His sympathies are all in favour of the perpetual drill, the mechanical obedience, the secret government proceedings, the narrow and prescribed range of ideas, the silent and deferential demeanour, the methodical, though tardy, action-of Sparta. Whatever may be the justice of his preference, certain it is, that the qualities whereby he was himself enabled to contribute so much both to the rescue of the Cyreian army, and to his own reputation - were Athenian far more than Spartan."

In this passage the reader will remark something more than an observation incidental to Grecian History. It contains also, under the guise of such a special observation, a truth of much larger application; an appreciation much wanted at the present day, of the function and value of literary talent even in practical and political affairs,—and a counteractive, also much needed, against that habit, which has recently become so prevalent among us, of denouncing and undervaluing speech, and insisting on nothing but action. There is a power in speech to solve difficulties before which the best silent action would be torpid; and a world condemned to proceed in great emergencies according to the strict Spartan fashion would present the problem of the Retreat of the Ten Thousand Greeks, with Xenophon omitted.

That portion of the two volumes before us which continues the general history of Greece onward from the point at which the previous volume left it, opens with a view of the condition of Greece at the time when the Spartan supremacy, consequent on the Peloponnesian war, was still existing,—and details the progress of events from that period till, by the sudden and unexpected rise of the Bœotian power, seconded by the exertions of the reviring Athenians, Sparsa was again humbled, and Greece brought into that condition of disunion and competing leadership, with Bœotia promi-

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nent, in which it was found by Philip of Macedon, when that prince (B.C. 360) acceded to the throne, and began the series of active enter-prises which gave first Greece itself, and after-wards the whole civilized world, into the hands of the Macedonian kings. In the commencement of this part of his work Mr. Grote takes frequent occasion to point out the incompetence, illiberality, and retrograde character of Spartan rule in Greece as compared with the Athenian rule which it had superseded. The Athenian rule, with all its faults, had been essentially "Pan-hellenic,"—that is, dominated by the general sentiment of Greece as a whole. It had allowed to all the subsidiary States as much of autonomy, or free self-government, as was com-patible with respect for Athenian leadership. The Spartan power, on the other hand, Mr. Grote represents as on the whole narrow, self-seeking, and injurious to what was noble and progressive in the separate Hellenic tendencies. In his anxiety to correct the misrepresentations of Democratic Athens given by Mitford and other previous writers, Mr. Grote has expressed himself on this point somewhat emphatically :on the whole, however, the facts which he relates bear out his opinion,—and he shows himself so able to appreciate what was specific and valuable in the Lacedæmonian character wherever there is opportunity, that the reader, while per-ceiving his superior affection for the Athenians, sees no sufficient reason for accusing him of

exaggeration in their behalf. Among the notable characters in this portion Among the notatic characters in this portion of the History are—the Spartans, Lysander, Agis, Pausanias, Cleombrotus, and Agesilaus,—the Athenians, Conon, Timotheus, Chabrias and Callistratus,—the Thebans, Pelopidas and Epaminondas,—Evagoras, the despot of Cyprus,—and the despot Jason of Pheræ. As the main action of this portion of the Greeion, drama lies in the struggle of the Grecian drama lies in the struggle of the victorious Bœotians against the Spartans, -so the personages around whom the interest is chiefly centered are, Agesilaus, the soul of the Spartan cause, and the two Theban patriots and friends, Pelopidas and Epaminondas. Conspicuous above all, of course, is Epaminondas: -a man whom, all things considered, Mr. Grote seems disposed to rank higher in the scale of general intellectual greatness than any other man of action produced by Greece, with the single exception perhaps of the Athenian Pericles. The story of the life of Epaminondas, as it connects itself with Grecian history, is related by Mr. Grote with the utmost perspicuity and fullness,—and with a success which shows how powerful a hold the memories of men of genius of the ancient classic world may take upon modern admiration and modern sympathies when their actions are presented to us by the art of a master. Of Leuctra and Mantineia, in connexion with the name of Epaminondas, all have heard,-though even of these battles, and of the military originality which they showed in the great Bœotian, a more lucid and vivid idea is to be obtained from Mr. Grote's pages; but of the more profound and recondite proofs of high intellect exhibited by Epaminondas, of his genius, not merely as a military man and patriotic leader, but also as a constructive statesman, who attained the great object of his life, the humiliation of the Spartans, not by mere fighting, but also by positive exercises of constructive ingenuity in remodelling Grecian society in the Peloponnesus after a manner which, though factitious at first, proved per-manent and effective,—of all this, readers will learn more from Mr. Grote's tenth volume than, so far as we know, from any other book in which the name of Epaminondas figures. We must be content here with quoting a part of the

passage in which Mr. Grote sums up the character of this prince of Thebans.—

"Scarcely any character in Grecian history has been judged with so much unanimity as Epami-nondas. He has obtained a meed of admiration. from all, sincere and hearty—from some, enthusiastic. Cicero pronounces him to be the first man of Greece. The judgment of Polybius, though not summed up so emphatically in a single epithet, is delivered in a manner hardly less significant and laudatory. Nor was it merely historians or critics who formed this judgment. The best men of action, combining the soldier and the patriot, such as Timoleon and Philosoldier and the patriot, such as Timoleon and Philo-permen, set before them Epaminondas as their model to copy. The remark has been often made, and suggests itself whenever we speak of Epaminondas, though its full force will be felt only when we come to follow the subsequent history—that with him the dignity and commanding influence of Thebes both began and ended. * * The military merits alone of began and ended. * The military merits alone of Epaminondas, had they merely belonged to a general of mercenaries, combined with nothing praiseworthy in other ways—would have stamped him as a man of high and original genius, above every other Greek, antecedent or contemporary. But it is the peculiar excellence of this great man that we are not compelled to borrow from one side of his character in order to compensate deficiencies in another. splendid military capacity was never prostituted to personal ends; neither to avarice, nor ambition, nor overweening vanity. Poor at the beginning of his life, he left at the end of it not enough to pay his funeral expenses; having despised the many oppor-tunities for enrichment which his position afforded, as well as the richest offers from foreigners. Of ambition he had so little, by natural temperament, that his friends accused him of torpor. But as soon as the perilous exposure of Thebes required it, he displayed as much energy in her defence as the most ambitious of her citizens, without any of that captious exigence, frequent in ambitious men, as to the amount of glorification or deference due to him from his countrymen. And his personal vanity was so faintly kindled, even after the prodigious success at Leuktra, that we find him serving in Thessaly as a private hoplite in the ranks, and in the city as an ædile or inferior street-magistrate, under the title of Telearchus. An illustrious specimen of that capa-city and good-will, both to command and to be commanded, which Aristotle pronounces to form in their combination the characteristic feature of the worthy citizen. * * The mildness of his antipathies against political opponents at home was undeviating; and what is even more remarkable, amidst the precedents and practice of the Grecian world, his hostility against foreign enemies, Bucotian dissentients, and Theban exiles, was uniformly free from reactionary vengeance. Sufficient proofs have been adduced in the preceding pages of this rare union of attributes in the same individual; of lofty disinterestedness, not merely as to corrupt gains, but as to the more seductive irritabilities of ambition, combined with a just measure of attachment towards partisans, and unparalleled gentleness towards enemies. His friendship with Pelopidas was never disturbed during the sifferen years of their joint political career; an absence of jealousy signal and creditable to both, though most creditable to Pelopidas, the richer, as well as the inferior, man of the two. To both, and to the harmonious co-operation of both, Thebes owed her short-lived splendour and ascendency. Yet when we compare the one with the other, we not only miss in Pelopidas the transcendent strategic genius and conspicuous eloquence, but even the constant vigilance and prudence, which never deserted his friend. If Pelopidas had had Epaminondas as his companion in Thessaly, he would hardly have trusted himself to the good faith, nor tasted the dungeon, of the Pheræan Alexander; nor would he have rushed forward to certain destruction, in a transport of phrensy, at the view of that hated tyrant in the subsequent battle. In eloquence, Epaminondas would doubtless have found superiors at Athens; but at Thebes, he had neither equal, nor predecessor, nor successor. Under the new phase into which Thebes passed by the expulsion of the Lacedæmonians out of the Kadmeia, such a gift was second in importance only to the great strategic qualities; while the combination of both elevated their possessor into the envoy, the

counsellor, the debater, of his country, as well as her minister at war and commander-in-chief. The shame of acknowledging Thebes as leading state in Greece, embodied in the current phrases about Bœotian stupidity, would be sensibly mitigated, when her representative in an assembled congress spoke with the flowing abundance of the Homeric Odysseus, instead of the loud, brief, and hurried bluster of Menelaus. or the loud, prict, and nurried bluster of Bletchaus.
The possession of such eloquence, amidst the uninspiring atmosphere of Thebes, implied far greater
mental force than a similar accomplishment would
have betokened at Athens. In Epaminondas, it was steadily associated with thought and action—that triple combination of thinking, speaking, and acting, which Isokrates and other Athenian sophists set before their hearers as the stock and qualification for meritorious civic life. To the bodily training and soldierlike practice, common to all Thebans, Epaminondas added an ardent intellectual impulse and a nondas added an ardent interfectual impulse and a range of discussion with the philosophical men around, peculiar to himself. He was not floated into public life by the accident of birth or wealth—nor hoisted and propped up by oligarchical clubs—nor even determined to it originally by any spontaneous ambition of his own. But the great revolution of 379 B.C., which expelled from Thebes both the Lacedæmonian garrison and the local oligarchy who ruled by its aid, forced him forward by the strongest obligations both of duty and interest; since nothing but an energetic defence could rescue both him and every other free Theban from slavery. It was by the like necessity that the American revolution, and the first French revolution, thrust into the front rank the most instructed and capable men of the country, whether ambitious by temperament or not. As the pressure of the time impelled Epaminondas forward, so it also disposed his countrymen to look out for a competent leader wherever he was to be found; and in no other living man could they obtain the same union of the soldier, the general, the orator, and the patriot. Looking through all Grecian history, it is only in Perikles that we find the like many-sided excellence; for though much inferior to Epaminondas as a general, Perikles must be held superior to him as a statesman. But it is alike true of both—and the remark tends much to illustrate the sources of Grecian excellence—that neither sprang exclu-sively from the school of practice and experience. They both brought to that school minds exercised in the conversation of the most instructed philosophers and sophists accessible to them-trained to varied intellectual combinations and to a larger range of subjects than those that came before the public assembly
—familiarized with reasonings which the scrupulous
piety of Nikias forswore, and which the devoted military patriotism of Pelopidas disdained.

Mr. Grote's chapters in continuation of the history of the Sicilian Greeks are also worthy of notice,—especially his account of the successive steps of "the Despot's Progress," as he felicitously terms the rise of Dionysius of Syracuse; but as this portion of the work is incomplete, it may be left over till the appearance of Vol. XI., which Mr. Grote announces as likely to be published by itself at no long interval.—Two, or at most three, volumes more, we should think, will then bring Mr. Grote to the point at which he means to close—the establishment of the empire of Alexander:—so concluding a great literary undertaking, equally notable whether we regard it as an accession to what is of standard value in our language, or as an honourable monument of what English scholarship can do, both to make use of the labours of Continental learning in the field of ancient history, and to repay those labours with abundant interest.

The Tagus and the Tiber; or, Notes of Travel in Portugal, Spain, and Italy in 1850-1. By William Edward Baxter. 2 vols. Bentley.

SEEING that the days are gone when average journals of Continental travel have any great rarity or value as guide-books, and that the only chance of attracting readers is by exhibiting some special knowledge,—such, for instance, as

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a Kugler treats us to when he lectures on the galleries of Art and the schools of painting, and a Laing or a Bamfield offer when they enter severally into the social condition of the agricultural and manufacturing populations,—we feel that Mr. Baxter's field is too wide and his hand too sketchy for him to create much impression by publishing his journals. We imagine that unfamiliar pictures have still to be got out of Portugal. Slight and feeble as were the late Mrs. Quillinan's sketches of that part of the Peninsula, they had still a costume and colour of their own. Mr. Baxter hardly rises above the common-place tourists of fifty years since in his knowledge of Art, his descriptions of scenery, or his marking of the humours which distinguish Basque from Lombard—the Limousin from the Tyrolese peasant. He has fine things to say concerning Murillo as a painter,—but few could gather from amid their finery one of those aids to appreciation to which we have been so thankfully indebted at the hands of tourists possessing real knowledge of their subject. Let it be recollected-as no discouragement to the capable, but as a settled truth by attending to which much disappointment will be saved to writer and reader—that every one who is pleased with pictures, music, scenery, is not therefore capable of describing pictures, analyzing music, or setting down on paper such features of nature as glaciers, vineyards, the cypress-trees on the heights above Florence, or the stone-pines that give so peculiar a charm to every general view of Rome .- The most vivid passage that we can find in Mr. Baxter's volumes is, an adventure on that doomed road, the Simplon, betwixt Sion and the summit .-

"At one o'clock in the morning, I was awakened by a crash and a tremulous motion. Thinking that we had run against a wagon, I kept my seat, but in a minute or two the driver turned towards the lamp a countenance on which terror was so legibly written. that I instantly opened the door and sprung out. 'For God's sake, sir, take care,' shouted the conductor, who, seated on the box beside the coachman, with one hand held the wheel-horses on their haunches, while with the other he firmly pressed the handle of the drag. It was a pitchy dark night, the sides of the road being invisible excepting where the lamps shone. Beside me the driver, his teeth chattering with fright, could say nothing but 'Oh, mon Dieu.' I heard somewhere or other the roaring of a torrent, and on a tree near me a screech owl added its shrill cry to the voices of the night. Several minutes elapsed before I could realize the awful nature of the peril which, thanks to the extraordinary presence of mind displayed by the conductor, we had almost miraculously escaped. Had he not left his usual place to sit on the box, humanly speaking, not one would have survived the hour to parrate the terrible catastrophe. A wooden suspension-bridge, seventy feet in height, and spanning a rapid river, had been swept away by a rise of waters, consequent on a thunder-storm in the mountains. On the brink of the precipice thus caused we stood, our leading horse having fallen over it and been instantaneously killed. Had his harness been of stout leather, no mortal power could have saved us; but providentially he had been attached to the vehicle only by two rope traces and a slight back strap. The tremulous motion I had felt was the struggle between the wheel-horses pulled back by the heroic conductor, (for the driver was powerless from terror,) and this unfortunate animal, as it hung suspended in middle air over the roaring torrent. The crash was the recoil of the vehicle, when the traces broke and the victim fell headlong into the abyss below. Cautiously approaching the brink of the chasm we found the remains of the harness, and discovered the exact nature of our situation. travelled not a little both by land and sea, in all manner of conveyances, and on every kind of road, but such a scene as that I never expect to witness again, though I should spend the remainder of my ears in wandering to and fro over the earth. dread hour of midnight, the solitude of the Alps,

the rushing of the river, the cries of the screech-owl,

the chattering teeth of the poor driver, the sighing of the wind, the cold air from the glaciers, the terrible nature of the danger, the miraculous manner of escape, combined to fill my mind with an awe, which returns to produce a tremour even while I write. It was one of those awful scenes which solemnize the feelings of the most callous, and remain engraven on the memory while life itself endures. * * Had the conductor been inside, had the harness been of leather, had we attempted to cross when the bridge was sinking instead of after it had sunk, had the horses been at a gallop, our bodies might even now have been buried in some of those rocky caldrons from which the Rhone struggles to get free. * * The supports of the bridge were still standing, but the roadway had fallen in; so cross the vehicle could not. The stream was not only deep, but wide and rapid, besides having precipitous banks; so fording was out of the question. But fortunately for us, the conductor had proved himself a man equal to an emergency. As soon as we had recovered from the shock, the driver was sent with a lamp to scramble along the side rails of the ruined bridge and alarm a village about half a mile beyond. Wearily did the minutes pass away before, amid the darkness, we heard the cheering cry from the opposite bank, 'Au secours, all secours,' In a very short time the entire room. In a very short time, the active peasants had laid planks along the ruins, on which, one by one, led by our intrepid conductor, we crossed the stream. Our trunks and bags succeeded, while the horses dragged back the diligence to the place from which they had started. Three hours of darkness we spent in an empty room of the village tavern, until two chars-à-banc arrived from the nearest post station of Tourtemagne, whither we proceeded. Similar vehicles conveyed us to Vierge, our baggage meanwhile following in a cart; where again we changed carriages, before traversing a desolate tract covered with stones, and the debris of mountain torrents, which in some places had obliterated all trace of the

To fill up his two volumes, Mr. Baxter once again begins to argue the question of Popery, its dangers and its iniquities, — ranging in polemical row the usual number of takings-forgranted, wholesale assertions, and one-sided attacks. For years and years has the artillery of epithet, anecdote, text, example, and warning been brought against the Vatican and its priests, —yet, like Wordsworth's gipsies,

Still we find them here.

Mr. Baxter's exorcism is certainly not the one before which they will disappear in the common daylight of liberal intelligence.

Life of Lord Jeffrey. With a Selection from his Correspondence. By Lord Cockburn.

As it is stated in the title-page of these volumes that the letters here printed are only "a selection" from the correspondence of Lord Jeffrey, we surmise that at some future time a more complete publication of his letters will be given to the world. We observe, for example, that none of Jeffrey's letters to Mr. Hallam, Mr. Macaulay, Lord Brougham, Lord J. Russell, and some other persons of distinction, are given here. Some letters to Horner that have not before been published are printed by Lord Cockburn. They are in the same tone as those printed in Horner's Life,-and somewhat too didactic for general interest .- In our last number our extracts were chosen with the view of describing the personal character of Lord Jeffrey: - on the present occasion we will give specimens of the variety of matters which this correspondence touches.

Mr. Empson, Lord Jeffrey's son-in-law, having sent to the latter a letter from Mr. Macaulay, stating his reasons for preferring a literary to a political life, Jeffrey replies:—

"It is a very striking and interesting letter; and certainly puts the pros and cons as to public life in a powerful way for the latter. But, after all, will either human motives or human duties ever bear such a dissection? and should we not all become

Hownynyms or Quakers, and selfish cowardly fel. lows, if we were to act on views so syste the devil would ever have anything to do with love or war nay, who would venture himself on the sea, or on a galloping horse if he were to calculate in this way the chances of shortening life or forfeiting comfort by such venturesome doings? And is the comfort by such venturesome doings? And is there not a vocation in the gifts which fit us for particular stations to which it is a duty to listen? Addison and Gibbon did well to write, because they could not speak in public. But is that any rule for M.? And then as to the tranquillity of an author's life, I confess I have no sort of faith in it, and am sure that as eloquent a picture might be drawn of its cares, and fears, and mortifications, its feverish anxieties, humiliating rivalries and jealousies, and heart-sinking exhaustion, as he has set before us of a statesm And as to fame, if an author's is now and then meet lasting, it is generally longer withheld, and, except in a few rare cases, it is of a less pervading or ele vating description. A great poet, or great original writer, is above all other glory. But who would give much for such a glory as Gibbon's? Besides, I believe it is in the inward glow and pride of con-sciously influencing the great destinies of mankind, much more than in the sense of personal reputation, that the delight of either poet or statesman chiefly consists. Shakspere plainly cared nothing about in glory, and Milton referred it to other ages. And, after all, why not be both statesmen and authors, like Burke and Clarendon?

—It would take us too much over debateable ground to discuss at present the views here stated. It may well be doubted, with the examples of Fox and Mackintosh before us, whether a parliamentary life can be made auxiliary to the pursuit of literary fame. The quantity of time required by the House of Commons is an obstacle to literary research,—as Mackintosh found by experience. That a man should enjoy great social and political power and be labouring for future literary fame at the same time, we suspect to be nearly incompatible.

Mr. Macaulay's writings were objects of especial admiration to Lord Jeffrey, whose interest in the publication of the 'History of England' was emphatically demonstrated. Lord Cockburn

"He testified the interest which he took in this great writer's fame by a proceeding, which, considering his age and position, is not unworthy of being told. This judge, of seventy-four, revised the proof sheets of the two first volumes of the History of England, with the diligence and minute care of a corrector of the press toiling for bread ; __not merely suggesting changes in the matter and the expression, but attending to the very commas and colons. task which, though humble, could not be useles, because it was one at which long practice had made him very skilful. Indeed, he used to boast that it was one of his peculiar excellences. On returning a proof to an editor of the Review, he says, 'I have myself rectified most of the errors, and made many valuable verbal improvements in a small way. But my great task has been with the punctuation—on which I have, as usual, acquitted myself to admiration. And indeed this is the department of literature in which I feel that I most excel, and on which I am therefore most willing now to stake my reputation!!

We get in various places of these volumes graphic sketches of public characters. Here is one of Jeffrey's lively letters, giving a peep at the political and aristocratic circles, and introducing Lord Althorpe (Earl Spencer).—

"London, 12th February, 1822.

".... I dined yesterday at Lord Carlisle's, and to-day at Lord Althorpe's. The first had ladies, and, consequently, was the most gay and agreeable, to say nothing of having Sydney Smith and Luttrell. But Lady Morley was my great charm; out of all sight the wittiest and most original woman in London, and yet not at all a kill-joy, but an encourager of all other inferior galeties, and with not the least mixture of spite or uncharity in her pleasantry. She is rather stricken in years, so there is no disturbance of my judgment upon her on that score. We had also all the Lady Blanches and Lady Georginas of the family,

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sho, with their mother, have the true, sweet-blooded sho, with their mother, have the true, sweet-blooded simplicity of the old English aristocracy; to which, I grieve to say, we have nothing parallel, and not much in the same rank that is not in harsh contrast, in Scotland. To-day's party was small, but it grew very delightful in the end, when it was still smaller, and had dwindled down to Lord Nugent, Poulet Thompson, Cam Hobhouse, and myself. Althorpe, with his usual frankness, gave us a pretended confession of faith and a sort of creed of his political morality, and avowed that, though it was a very shocking doctrine to promulgate, he must say that he had never-sacrificed his own inclinations to a sense of duty without repenting it, and always found him. behal never acrined his own inclinations to a sense of duty without repenting it, and always found himself more substantially unhappy for having exerted himself for the public good! We all combated this atrocious heresy the best way we could; but he maintained it with an air of sincerity, and a half carnest that was quite striking. I wish you could have seen his beaming eye and benevolent lips kindling as he answered us, and dealt out his natural familiar rerices with the fearlessness as if of perfect sincerity, and the artlessness of one who sought no applause and despised all risk of misconstruction; and the thought that this was the leader of the English House of Commons,—no speculator, or discourser, or adventurer,—but a man of sense and business, of the highest rank, and the largest experience both of fairs and society. We had also a great deal of talk about Nelson and Collingwood, and other great commanders, whom he knew in his youth, and during his sther's connection with the navy; and all of whom he characterized with a force and simplicity which ma quite original and striking. I would have given a great deal to have had a Boswell to take a note of a great deal to have nad a Boswen to the table talk; but it is gone already.

-Lord Althorpe was an especial favourite of Jeffrey,-who describes him thus whimsically: "There is something to me quite delightful in his calm, clumsy, courageous, immutable probity and well-meaning, and it seems to have

a charm for everybody."

When the Whig Ministry were out for a few days in 1832, Jeffrey thus writes:—

L west to Althorne at the check to sake and

"I went to Althorpe at ten o'clock to ask, and had a characteristic scene with that most honest, frank, true, and stout-hearted of all God's creatures. He had not come down stairs, and I was led up to his dressing-room, where I found him sitting on a stool, in a dark, duffle dressing gown, with his arms, (very rough and hairy), bare above the elbows, and his beard half shaved, and half staring through the lather, with a desperate razor in one hand, and a great soap brush in the other. He gave me the losse finger of the brush hand, and with the usual twinkle of his bright eye and radiant smile, he said,

"You need not be anxious about your Scotch Bill
for to-night, for I have the pleasure to tell you, we
we no longer his Majesty's Ministers."

And again, in the same month:-

"Lord Althorpe has gone through all this with his characteristic cheerfulness and courage. The day after the resignation he spent in a great sale any arer the resignation he spent in a great sale garden, choosing and buying flowers, and came home with five great packages in his carriage, de-roting the evening to studying where they should be planted in his garden at Althorpe, and writing directions and drawing plans for their arrangement. and when they came to summon him to a council on the Duke's giving in, he was found in a closet with a groom, busy oiling the locks of his fowling-pieces, and lamenting the decay into which they had fillen during his ministry."

The foregoing bits are highly characteristic of Lord Althorpe. From looking at one who was emphatically called "honest" by his party, the transition to the most rusé statesman of modern times is striking. Here is Talleyrand at Holland House .-

agree with him that it would not have been fair to continue it. Monday—We had a party at home—the Listers, Stephens, Northamptons, and Macleods. It was very hot, but came off perfectly, everybody being in good humour. Charley looking very nice, and getting on charmingly, with Mr. Elphinstone on utilerer of bons mots. He spoke a great deal of old times and old persons, the court of Louis XVI.

when Dauphin, his coronation, Voltaire, Malsherbe, Turgot; with traditional anecdotes of Massillon and Bossuet, and many women of those days, whose names I have forgotten, and a good deal of diplomatic anecdote, altogether very pleasing and easy. He did not eat much, nor talk much about eating, except only that he enquired very earnestly into the nature of cocky-leckie, and wished much to have whether executions. know whether prunes were essential. He settled at last that they should be boiled in the soup, but not brought up in it. He drank little but iced

O'Connell's oratorical power is described in a few lines which constitute one of the greatest tributes that the Irish tribune ever received.

Lord Cockburn says:—
"The Irish Coercion Bill gave him the best view he had yet obtained of the nature of a certain class of the Irish members—'without the least sense of of the Irish members—'without the least sense of shame or honour; bold, desperate, and loquacious.'—(3rd February 1833). He was always inclined to hope better of O'Connell, and had a great admiration of his eloquence. 'He is a great artist. In my opinion indisputably the greatest orator in the House; nervous, passionate, without art or ornament; concise, intrepid, terrible; far more in the style of old Demosthenic directness and vehemence, than anything I have heard in this modern world; yet often coarse, and sometimes tiresome, as Deyet often coarse, and sometimes tiresome, as Demosthenes was too, though venturing far less, and going over far less ground."

In this manner a variety of public persons are sharply daguerreotyped. Some of the letters savour of provincialism, and remind us of certain American travellers. Here is one of Jeffrey's gossipping London epistles, written to Mrs. Innes, in 1841. Mr. Macaulay will no doubt be one of the first to give a hearty laugh at the humorous description of his own overpowering conversation.—We take for granted that in the ensuing volumes of Lord Holland's Memoirs we shall learn the contents of the note-book

alluded to in this letter .-"And now, will you have the close of my town journal? It is an old story now, and I have, luckily I believe, forgotten all but the outlines. But here are the fragments:—Friday, 24th—At Stephen's (I think I did not mention that before) with Macaulay and Monteagle—(O! but I think I remember that I did tell you of that); and how Macaulay exceeded his ordinary excess in talk, and how I could scarcely leads in the property of the continuous control of the c keep him from pure soliloquy, and how Lord M. fell fairly asleep, and our Platonic host himself nodded his applause. But no matter-that was the truth of it, whether told for the first or second time. Saturday_I am sure I did not chronicle before, we were at Lord Denman's with Sydney Smith, Rogers, the Milmans, and that beautiful Mrs. D—, whom I had not seen for years, &c. We went in the evening (at least I did) to Ba—'s great assembly, where I was set upon by Lady—, and contrived very cleverly to introduce her to Talfourd, and to leave them together, and then fell into the clutches of that crazy, chattering Lady —, and was only rescued by the kind recognition of poor Lady —, who is quite paralytic, and is wheeled through the room in a chair, but a very sweet-mannered, elegant, and gracious creature still. I had talk with various learned persons, and walked home in the cool starlight. On Sunday, I was asked to be en famille at Hallend House, but found in the cool of Holland House, but found sixteen people—foreign ambassadors, and everybody; but no ladies but Lady —, who is always agreeable. Lord H. was full of good talk, and trusted me home with his six days in the sixteen home with his six days. journal of the conversation at his house in 1814, made as an experiment of what could be done in rivalry of Boswell's Johnson. It is very entertaining, and contains some capital specimens of Grattan, Parr, Frere, Windham, and Erskine; but I quite agree with him that it would not have been fair to

Charlottes and I were at Holland House again (Empson being obliged to be at College), and again (Empson being obliged to be at College), and again a large party. I had the honour of sitting between Lord Melbourne and Lord Duncannon, with Lord H. but one off, so we had the best of the talk. My lady being between the French and the Prussian ambassadors, and calling often in vain for our assistance on sadors, and calling often in vain for our assistance on one side, and Lord John Russell on the other, who was busy with C. Buller. The Charlottes were delighted with Lord H., who had them both by him, and talked to them all the time of dinner with so much gaiety and good humour. My lady they thought very amusing after dinner, and full of kindness to them. I had some good talk with Guizot after coffee, and a little about Dr. Alison and our Soytch prore with Lord Luby and come horne. our Scotch poor with Lord John, and come home late. Wednesday...We were all with Mr. Justice and Lady Coltman, where we had Baron Maule, the Attorney, and Lady S., and, in short, rather a professional party, with the exception of F. Lewis, and L. Romilly, and Lady who writes books. Jo. Romilly, and Lady —, who writes books. Lady C. is very agreeable, though a zealous Unitarian, and I rather think the only truly agreeable drove out to the new Horticultural Gardens at Chiswick, and walked about among its blossoms an hour-came home in an open carriage (and got my Campbells at Paddington, where we had the Bishop of Llandaff and the Dean of Carlisle, invited on puror Lianuan and the Dean or Carliste, invited on purpose to meet me. So you see in what esteem my orthodoxy is held among the sages of the south. But not to end the day too sanctimoniously, Empson carried me at night to a grand city ball, in Drapers' Hall—not a public ball, however, but a rich friend of his lives in the adjoining house, and got leave to light the antique premises for his party. The rooms light the antique premises for his party. The rooms are very grand and imposing, but being finished with dark carved onk, and mostly carpeted with ancient Turkey, looked rather sombre for a ball. However, there were 300 people, and a grand supper, from which, however, we ran away. It is one symptom of the enormous wealth of this place, that a quiet or the enormous wealth of this piace, that a quiet plain man, who has no pretensions to fashion or display, should thus spend 500l. on one night's dull gaiety. Saturday—We breakfasted in Regent's Park with Miss Rogers,—a most lovely morning, where we had the poet C. Murray (the hero of the Pawnees), the Milmans, and Sir C. and Lady Bell. Mrs. — was looking very pretty, and in her nice bright pale green gown and hanging flowers, looked like a lily of the valley just pushing out of its deli-cate sheath. We drove afterwards and saw Joanna Baillie at Hampstend, and had another party at Baillie at Hampstend, and had another party at dirner (I agree with you in the extravagance and folly of it) at home. The Macaulays, and Trevyllians, Rogers, Austins, Palgraves. Sunday—We went early to Bushy Park and Hampton Court—a most splendid day, though the east wind rather sharp for my poor trachea. We walked about (too long for its good) the horse-chesnuts all in flower, but the leaves scarcely fully unfurled. The Hampton Court Gardens are really beautiful and so can. ton Court Gardens are really beautiful, and so gay with well-dressed, moral-looking, happy people. Empson and I then went to dine with W. Murray at the Temple, where we had excellent turtle and champagne—Lord Denman, Mt. Elphinstone, and Sir Go. Philips—only less wine than usual, and a long talk after coffee, with Elphinstone especially, till my feet got cold, and the trachea took half my voice away, when we came home inglorious in a cab. Monday—I went to the Exhibitions, and dined at — with a great Yorkshire party—Lord Tyrconnel and spouse, Lady F. Grahame, some Beresfords, a Mrs. Somebody who sat by me, and took me all the time of dinner for the Bishop of Ripon, in spite of my brown coat and white waist-coat, and laughed like a hymna when she found out

the mistake. The bishop's wife was sitting opposite, but he was detained in the Lords, and did not come till dinner was over. I thought him the most agreeable bishop I ever saw, and very good looking, and I hope he will come to show himself to you in Scotland. We had my old friends, Sir George Cayley and Miss too, and Lady Worsley and her daughter in the evening. I like all the Cayleys. I called to bid the Berrys farewell on my way home, but found they had gone to Richmond for the season that morning; so I came home, and here at last ends the history of my five weeks' London experiences, more faithfully and largely recited than such things ever were before, or ever will, or deserve to be, recited again. Next morning I had your letter, and wrote to you, and came down here with a great deal of languid fever about me. But we drove through the sweet shades of Panshanger on Wednesday, and sat under their grand oak. We have been altogether and delightfully alone ever since, and, in spite of some little languor, I have enjoyed it thoroughly. The country round is wavy and woody, very green, and bounded by a ridge of hills, though low enough to be all cul-tivated and wooded. The streams clear, for England, running over beds of green flags or grass, and pretty rapid.

We have cited enough to give our readers a fair view of the interest of this Correspondence. Justice to the biographer demands that we should present them with Lord Cockburn's description of Lord Jeffrey as a conversationalist.—

"He was certainly a first-rate talker. But he was not an avowed sayer of good things; nor did he deal, but very sparingly, in anecdote, or in personalities, or in repartee; and he very seldom told a story, or quoted; and never lectured; and though perpetually discussing, almost never disputed; and though joyous, was no great laugher. What then did he do? He His mind was constantly full of excellent matter; his spirit was always lively; and his heart was never wrong; and the effusion of these produced the charm. He had no exclusive topics. All subjects were welcome; and all found him ready, if not in knowledge, at least in fancy. But literary and moral speculations were, perhaps, his favourite pas-And in these, as in any region whatever, for nothing came amiss, he ranged freely, under the play of a gay and reasoning imagination; from no desire of applause, but because it gratified his mental activity. Speaking seemed necessary for his existence. The intellectual fountains were so full, that they were always bubbling over, and it would have been painful to restrain them. For a great talker, he was very little of an usurper. Everybody else had full scope, and indeed was encouraged; and he himself, though profuse, was never long at a time; except, perhaps, when giving an account of something of which he was the mere narrator, when his length depended on the thing to be told. Amidst all his fluency of thought, and all his variety of matter, a great part of the delight of his conversation arose from its moral Though never assuming the office of a teacher, his goodness of feeling was constantly trans-No one could take a walk, or pass a day, or an evening, with him, without having all his rational and generous tastes confirmed, and a steadier conviction than before, of the dependence of happiness on kindness and duty. Let him be as bold, and as free, and as incautious, and hilarious, as he might, no sentiment could escape him that tended to excuse inhumanity or meanness, or that failed to cherish high principles and generous affections. Then the language in which this talent and worth were disclosed! The very words were a delight. Copious and sparkling, they often imparted nearly as much pleasure as the merry or the tender wisdom they conveyed. Those who left him might easily retire without having any particular saying to report, but never without an admiration of mental richness and striking expression. His respect for conversational power made him like the presence of those who possessed it. But this was not at all necessary for his own excitement, for he never uttered a word for display, and was never in better flow than in the ordinary society of those he was attached to, however humble their powers, and although they could give him no aid but by affection and listening. There was so much in his own head and heart, that, in to

far as he was concerned, pouring it out was enjoyment enough. It may appear an odd thing to say, but it is true, that the listener's pleasure was enhanced by the personal littleness of the speaker. A large man could scarcely have thrown off Jeffrey's conversational flowers without exposing himself to ridicule. But the liveliness of the deep thoughts, and the flow of the bright expressions, that animated his talk, seemed so natural and appropriate to the figure that uttered them, that they were heard with something of the delight with which the slenderness of the trembling throat, and the quivering of the wings, make us enjoy the strength and clearness of the notes of a little bird."

Here we must pause:-but not without reminding Lord Cockburn of the omission of an index, or even of a good table of contents, like that in the 'Life of Horner.' In a work with so many names and such various matter, it is very troublesome to hunt for particular passages without the help of an index.-We conclude by congratulating Lord Cockburn on the ability with which his portion of this work is executed. Some of his views we should be inclined to controvert were it here necessary :and in his second edition he will find it well, we think, to leave out a few passages which, though not personally offensive, savour somewhat of unnecessary private revelation. But on the whole, the clear intellect and manly style of the biographer have added their own harmonious charm to that which he has so successfully produced in the letters of the eminent subject of his biography.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Lena; or, the Silent Woman. By the Author 'King's Cope.' 3 vols.—This tale is a perfect of 'King's Cope.' 3 vols.—This tale is a perfect maze of incidents; the theme being "love, still love,"—and the principal personages three fair young ladies, two plain and over-educated ditto, and several gentlemen of divers qualities of beauty and strangeness. The author may be said to com-mand rather than to affect singularities of character: for Lena, the delicate, truthful, innocent creature who gives her name to the book, is singular in her holiness, her clear and simple sense, and her tenderness.—Cecil, again, the showy, sarcastic, true-hearted, unselfish heroine of the story, is not altogether an every-day compound. A grain more of some of the ingredients that compose her character would have made her utterly detestable. As it is, she is piquant, sympathetic (as the southerns use the epithet); -a more satisfactory heroine, in short, than ninety-nine out of the hundred who bear the title. Laura, the fairy-like coquetteand Louisa and Henrietta, the plain girls crammed with too many accomplishments and too burning a desire to get husbands—are respectively touched with great nicety and slyness. There is character, with great nicety and slyness. There is character, too, in Uncle Ned, in Lord Hurstmonceaux, and in Basil,—all three, like the ladies whom they support or cross in the dance, having more or less originality.—The dialogue put into the mouths of these speakers (as we think was the case in the writer's former tales) is easy and life-like. -But the grace and value of constructive power seem unknown to the author of 'Lena.' persons evoked are flung, as has been said, into a positive maze of incidents which might with no trouble have been spread over double—or con-tracted within half—the space of the three volumes. We read on more to see what the dramatis personæ will say than from any lively curiosity as to what they will do,—since at an early page it becomes evident that the author of 'Lena' holds Harlequin's wand, and suppresses, kills, transforms and drives about the puppets with a magisterial and despotic suddenness. Till almost the very last pages anybody seems capable of marrying any other body in the novel; and this not owing to any such artful management of suspense as Miss Austen commanded with such consummate art and fine tact,-but because of the crowding and the dislocation of so many jiltings, surprises, convenient deaths, and inconvenient losses of fortune,—which make us feel as if nothing is safe, and no one

out of harm's way, until the magic five letten FINIS are reached. — One possessing so shreed an eye, so quick a fancy, and so lively a taste he dialogue as the author of 'Lena' should take mee heed of the probability and consistence of the fall on which such good gifts are to be expended.

Gold in Australia. Caution and Advice to Enigrants.—A little book of good counsel, given in a very plain unpretending manner. It would seem to be the production of an artizan living on the spot.

Sleep and Dreams. By John A. Symonds, M.D.,
—Here is the publication of two interesting lectures delivered at the Bristol Literary and Philosophical Institution. Dr. Symonds has usefully added a list of the most accessible books which treat on his subject, thus directing the attention fhis reader to the best popular sources of information:—a plan which we should be glad to see lecturers adopt more generally when reprinting their discources.

The Churchyard Manual. Intended chiefly for Rural Districts. By W. H. Kelke.—Every man has his humour,—and the humour of Mr. Kelke is the coffin and the tombstone. About styles and epitaphs, Pagan ornaments and Gothic headstone, he gossips as only one with such a love of his subject as makes him forget that all the world is not a grave-yard would venture to do. But his enthusiasm amuses, while the information which has picked out of various writers informs, the reade. What can be said more for a book whose sole toping, the arrangement of the externals of a grave!

How to see the British Museum. In Four Visit. By W. Blanchard Jerrold.—In this little modes volume, bearing a modest price, young Mr. Jerroli has endeavoured to supply a want long felt by many who have been to the British Museum and by other who have not yet been there. In drawing up his account of what is to be seen by the public norths' Mr. Smirke's splendid iron railing, Mr. Jerrold ha brought the experience to his task which he derived from his careful endeavour to make the contents of the Crystal Palace "easy" to the common apprehension. Though not exactly in the nature of handbook, wherein the reader is directed to "oh serve" and "compare," there is much in this modes "how" that the visitor will find of use to carry to the British Museum with the open page be him. The great merit of the work consists in its being an excellent Introduction to the Museum. The most constant frequenter of its galleries and rooms may learn something useful from these pages. There is no endeavour at an exhibition of archeological or scientific knowledge,—but a pains-tak ing purpose to place the information of the author at the service of the reader .- At times, we must add, the matter-of-fact instruction of the work is relieved by touches of humour reminding us very pleasantly of the elder Jerrold. Here is a touch of this sort The author has been describing the restrictions on visitors in days happily gone by .- "These mean precautions of the last century contrast happily with the enlightened liberty of this. Crowds of all ranks and conditions besiege the doors of the British Museum, especially in holiday times,—yst the skeleton of the elephant is spotless, and the bottled rattlesnakes continue to pickle in peace. The Elgin marbles have suffered no abateme their marvellous beauties; and the coat of the cameleopard is without a blemish. The Yorkshireman has his unrestrained stare at Sesostris; the undertaker spends his holiday over the num-mies, and no official suppresses his professional objections to the coffins. The weaver observes the objections to the coffins. The weaver observes the looms of the olden time: the soldier compares the Indian's blunt instrument with his own keen and deadly bayonet. The poor needlewoman enjoys her laugh at the rude sewing-instruments of barbarous tribes: the stone-mason perhaps compares his tombs with the sarcophagi of ancient masters. No attendant is deputed to dog the heds of five visitors and to watch them with the cold eye of a gaoler; no bell warns the company from one spot to another; all is open—free!"—There are spot to another: all is open—free!"—There are other "hows" in which Mr. Jerrold's talents would be of service; but he must narrow his number of visits,-for in these hard-working times few people

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for whom such books as the one before us may be said to be essential can afford to give more than one or two visits even to such a storehouse of the Dr. Robinson's Greek Lexicon to the New Testasaid to be essential can afford to give more than one or two visits even to such a storehouse of the past and the present as the British Museum.

CLASSICAL AND SCHOOL BOOKS.

The Hecuba of Euripides; chiefly from the Text of Porson. By George B. Wheeler, A.B.—A very complete and useful edition of a standard classical work, elementary enough for the higher forms in schools and yet not unworthy to be consulted at schools and yet not unworthy to be consulted at college. The name of Porson is in itself a sufficient guarantee for the excellence of the text. Valuable extracts from his celebrated preface and Elmsley's review, remarks upon the Greek metre, analyses of the choral odes in this play after the method of Hermann and other scholars, a good life of Euripides compiled from the best ancient and modern authorities-among whom Mr. Grote occupies a very prominent place,—and the criti-cisms of Müller and Schlegel upon the Hecuba, form altogether an excellent introduction. The notes contain a copious collection of readings, translations of difficult passages, information on points of grammar principally taken from Jelf's translation of Kühner, with an abundance of comments and illustrations, partly original and partly derived from eminent annotators. The type is bold

The Return of Ulysses; with a Short Grammar and Vocabulary. By Paul Hirsch.—One of the greatest difficulties which a youthful student of German has to encounter is, the scarcity of easy and at the same time interesting reading books in that language. Mr. Arnold's 'German Reader,' though excellent in some respects, is too miscellaneous and fragmentary to be entertaining—to say nothing of the insipidity of some of the extracts,—and not sufficiently adapted in its arrangement to the gradual advance of the scholar. The present work is well suited to meet the want which has long been felt. Both the subject and the style are in its favour. The romantic adventures of Ulysses and Telemachus will always be read with interest by the young. Those who have studied Homer will not be sorry to use this familiar version of the story as a means of learning German. resent work is well suited to meet the want which It was prepared by Dr. Ernst Kapp, late Professor in the College of Minden, eminent for his success as a teacher; and is remarkable for its simplicity and flowing ease, as well as for its richness in idiom:
—qualities, of all others, the most valuable to an
English learner. A good practical grammar is prefixed,—and a vocabulary, containing an explanation of all words likely to present any difficulty is
to be found at the end of the book. Not only are the printing and general getting up excellent, but the attractiveness of the volume is much increased by twenty-four well-executed woodcuts.

by twenty-four well-executed woodcuts.

Herodotus. Book I. Clio. Translated literally into English Prose, by H. Owgan, L.L.D.—

Herodotus. Book II. Euterpe. Translated literally into English Prose, by W. Lewers, Esq., Scholar T.C.D.—The Histories of C. C. Sallust. Literally translated by H. Owgan, L.L.D.—M. T. Cicero on Old Age and Friendship. Literally translated, by W. Lewers.—Four volumes of a series of literal prose translations entitled Kelly's Classical Litrary. They are published in Dublin. Classical Library. They are published in Dublin,—for the use, we presume, of Trinity College students. Those who cannot get through the wide extent of classical reading prescribed by the college without a crib may perhaps manage to scrape through with the assistance here afforded. General though with the assistance here ahorded. General readers, also, who wish to get some idea of what the ancient classical authors wrote, may consult these translations with advantage; but they must not expect to find in them any just representation of the style and character of the originals.

Homer's Iliad: Books I., VI., XX. and XXIV; with a copious Vocabulary for the Use of Schools and Colleges. By James Fergusson, M.D.—As an introduction to Homer this book is likely to prove very serviceable. The portions selected are suitable. The text is a revision of Bekker's by Mr. Veitch, whose work on the Irregular Greek Verbs demonstrates his competency as a scholar. In the vocabulary at the end the derivation and

ment, condensed for Schools and Students .- The editor of this compilation has not thought fit to reveal his name, nor does it appear from the pre-face that he ever received any authority to make such a use as he has of Dr. Robinson's well-known Lexicon. We think the public have a right to be satisfied on these points. At the same time, we have no hesitation in saying that, whoever the editor may be, he has done his work well. Every word occurring in the New Testament is correctly explained and amply illustrated with suitable ex-amples. An excellent idea, not merely of the various shades of meaning which each is capable of bear-ing, but also of the different combinations into which it enters, may be gathered from the phrases quoted or referred to. All Hebraisms and peculiar constructions are fully exemplified. Great attention is given to the prepositions and particles, which play so important a part in the Greek language. Peculiarities of inflection are stated, and the derivation is explained, generally with undoubted accuracy. We question, however, the propriety of deriving $\beta \omega \sigma r d \tilde{\lambda} \omega r o$ as the root of we see much use in giving $\delta \hat{\epsilon} \lambda \epsilon a \rho$ as the root of $\delta \epsilon \lambda \epsilon \hat{a} \zeta \omega$, without explaining what that root means. The type is clear and varied. A vocabulary is given at the end, by consulting which even those who have but slender acquaintance with Greek grammar may without difficulty parse every word in the Testament.

Theory and Practice; or, a Progressive, Clear, and Practical Course of the German Language. By J. N. Vlieland.—The great excellence of this book is indicated by its title. At every step conversational exercises are given, that the student may at once put in practice what he has learnt, and thus be sure to understand and remember it. Vlieland has confined himself to the essentials of the grammar, which he has stated with simplicity.

the grammar, which he has stated with simplicity. Those who are acquainted with Meidinger's Grammaire Allemande Pratique,' of which this is in great measure a translation, will need no further information to guide their judgment.

An Elementary Speaking French Grammar. By John Loth.—We never yet heard of a grammar without rules. Such, however, is Mr. Loth's description of his book. That there are no rules in it, is true enough; but we dispute his right to call it a grammar, though it contains the rudiments of the accidence at the end. The bulk of the book is composed of vocabularies conversations in French composed of vocabularies, conversations in French to be translated, we presume, into English, and conversational exercises in English to be turned into French. How anybody is to do this without a knowledge of rules, we cannot imagine. It is absurd to expect it. Mr. Loth recommends the frequent reading of the French conversations aloud with the teacher in order to familiarize the learner with the sounds; but very little good can be done by this parrot-like process, unless the meaning is thoroughly understood,—and this is impossible without a knowledge of grammatical rules. The master may, by frequently repeat ing the translation in the hearing of his pupils, at last get them to know the meaning of some few phrases and sentences. Still, he will never enable them to speak French well on this "new, easy, and certain plan for speaking French fluently in three months." It is necessary to exercise the eye and the mind as well as the ear.—The English exercises here given contain many un-English ex-

The Genius of the French Language. By H. Holt. -English exercises containing colloquial and idiomatic expressions, to be translated into French, form the substance of this work. Curiously form the substance of this work. Curiously enough, twenty-four lessons on the syntax of the French language are put at the end instead of the beginning. Mr. Holt strongly denounces the practice of confining learners to what he calls "the mechanism of the language,"—by which he means the ordinary syntactical rules; and insists on directing their attention to the idiom or "genius of the language," But, surely they must have some knowledge of syntax, declension, and conjugation before they can at all comprehend the true force

of colloquial or idiomatic phrases. As a companion to a grammar, this book is calculated to be useful. The idioms explained and exemplified are such as frequently occur in conversation,—and, what is a rare excellence in books of this kind, the English

Hints on Arithmetic, addressed to a Young Governess. By Lady Verney.—A sixpenny little book of much higher merit than pretension; containing not merely lucid explanations of arithmetical rules generally not at all understood, but also valuable directions for the guidance of teachers.

BOOKS OF VERSE.

Hours and Days. By Thomas Burbidge.—Mr. Burbidge has one of those small household harps which make a pleasant enough music in the ears of friends,—but are unwise to challenge the great public. They are very difficult to characterize by the critic who would not be ungenerous and must be just. Perhaps the difficulty is best solved by giving a specimen:—which we do,—premising merely that it is one which would hardly have been written had not Wordsworth set the pattern when he commemorated

Little Barbara Lethwaite, child of beauty rare, in his ballad of 'The Pet Lamb.'-

The Sprig of Mignonette.

This little sprig of mignonette, which in my hand I hold, Grew high upon the mountain where the wind was bleak and cold;

No maiden according

No maiden ever watered it, nor watched it day by day, For where it grew were only rock and stormy clouds at *

So rapidly and recklessly, and heartless as a wind, As down the steep I glided, I heard a voice behind; A little voice, but sweet and soft as ever I heard yet— And, turning, saw a little Girl, with a sprig of mignonette. A simple message bare the Child. Her "buon passeggio"

said, Her little flower presented, she hung her blameless head; She hung her head as if ashamed of that which she had done—

That she, to greet a stranger, so far from home had run. Perhaps she was not very fair, yet her delightful voice Lent beauty to her face, and made the very eyes rejoice; Yet if she were not fair indeed, I know not by what art She has procured that I should put her face into my heart. Howe'er that be, the little Child, and this sweet flower she

bore,

bore,

would something in my spirit which I had not known
before;

And all my soul with tenderness was clothed, and joy serene,
As when a naked tree breaks forth into his vernal green. —One day, perhaps, Mr. Burbidge will own that he might have selected a better model from Wordsworth's poems than a ballad which stands, as it were, on the very verge of that debateable ground where simplicity and silliness are one.

An Essay on the Physiology of the Sense of Feeling; as Illustrative of the Wisdom and Beneficence of the Almighty, in the Gift of the Senses to Mau. By the Rev. Richard Brudenell Exton, Domestic Chaplain to the Earl of Clarendon.—This poem by the Earl of Clarendon's Domestic Chaplain presents one of those cases in which an extract is indispensable,-if anything is to be said about it at all. No one could possibly convey any notion of the Rev. Mr. Exton's Muse but herself. If our readers admire "dim oracles" like the following, they will know where to find more of them:—but for ourselves, were Mr. Exton a Romish priest, we should say the reading of his book might be prescribed as a penance.-

ribed as a penance.—

Freing (and not involuntarily) peers Within the dark abyam of Gehenna,
There to ruminate, with sympathetic Sadness, o'er the pangs by obdurate souls Sustain'd—themselves self-torturing beneath The goad by Memory pointed at the wounds of disregarded Conscience; when in life She held the mirror to th'averted eye, Fremonitory of their present throes.
The quicken'd Sense,—participating In the love that prompted once th' unrisen Conqueror of Death and Hell to visit Spirits in their prison-house, there to preach The tidings of redemption,—oft intrudes Unseen, to muse upon the moments lost, "The fair occasions gone for ever by," When they who now repentant, but in vain, Bewail their fatal blindness, self-imposed, That aceing they might ace, and not perceive; And hearing, took no thought of what they heard. Hence Feeling took not hought of what they heard.

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Nor needs he often to employ his thoughts Discursive among scenes of suffering
As yet but dimly shadow'd. Earth's penal
Bettlement (probationary too
Of Man's yet hopful nature) still abounds
In poisonous herbs and bitter fruits, the growth
Of seeds wide scatter'd by the primal curse. of seeds wide scatter'd by the primal curse.
The thorns and briers springing in his path Impede not his salaclous gaze towards
The interdicted tree, although in mercy Strown. to warn him he is mortal; t'inflict
Upon his spirit, or his frame, co-sensitive,
The passing pangs design'd to wake reflection.
(And Love Divine, as manifest in stripes.
Medicinal as in smiles of pardoning grace,
Directs, controuls, subdues, by Man's unconscious
Agency, the erratic course of Man.)
Affliction rouses aympathy in breasts
Not all impervious to the strong appeal—
Behold thy Brother! Frantico, if dormant
Till the arrow attike its nevre perceptive,
Then springs forth, and gazing on the prostrate
Sufferer, administers the balm best
Sufferer, administers the balm best
Sufferer, administers the balm best
Sufferer, administers the balm best Sufferer, administers the balm best
Sutted to the festering wound: - be it
Of Penury's dull but oft-returning throes;
OF Sickness' doubtful and still threat'ning frown;
Or pierced Affection's keenest pang, as o'er
The loved insensate form it bends, in mute
Despondency; or the dread portraiture
Of humbled pride, now agonized with thoughts
Of deep offences past, of woes to come,
Retributive of Gop's neglected Laws,
Well known, but scornfully repudiated
As thinss of nought! Well known, but scor As things of nought!

-We have put "Books of Verse," instead of "Books of Poetry," at the head of this section of our Library Table, under an idea that we thereby secured latitude enough in the descending direction to include all probable examples. Our readers will see, however, how difficult it is to get a title sufficiently comprehensive when seeking to class the multitudes who appeal to posterity in the name of the Muse. It is clear that the above lines have not properly their place under any general heading which has *Verse* as one of its postulates.

The Beauties of Nature, and how far they transeend those of Art, in Landscape Gardening. By James Sinclair.—The object of the following poem," says Mr. Sinclair, "is to introduce a new era in the art of landscape gardening." He takes up his parable against parallel lines "either in the shape of roads, flower-borders, grass, or gravelwalk ;" and-

"Speaks the more confidently on the subject of Nature's multifarious ways of distributing her trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants, rocks, &c.; and of man's efforts to do the same in his way—from his having not only seen how such is done in England and Scotland, but also on the mountains and plains of Spain, Portugal, Greece, Turkey, Tartary, South Russia, Moldavia, Wallachia, Transylvania, Hungary, Cro-tia and Bohemia; and by the cities of Constantinople, Odessa, Vienna, Dresden, Berlin, Potsdam, Mag burgh, Hanover, Cologne, Brussels, Paris, &c. If he can now make but one step towards the beautifying of some of our English residences, by planting trees, raising mounds, making roads, lawns, or shrubberies by pointing out some of the beauties found in Natural Landscape, and how far they transcend those of art—he will feel highly gratified:"

—A stranger production than the one into which the above preface ushers us is hardly within our experience. But we will let the author talk of botany and grass" for himself.—

Some men do cram each corner full of trees, Some men do cram each corner full of trees,
And some do circles and fair ovals spread
Around their homes, filled with what does them please:
Just at the moment when those beds are made,
Or what at the same moment then did fill the head,
And too the heart, with beauty and with grace,
They often plant, and spare not every mead
That does spread round their homes, and make the face
Of each estate quite altered here, from what it was.

Some make a spreading lawn and do it fill Not here with heauty, but with various kinds Of fruit trees, that from them do here distill Pair fruits, that often gladden here the minds Of tender youth, as each its treasure sends; And all this is too good, but then the place Where fruits should glow, it is not where there stan The mansion fair that rissu pwith grace; But in the fields, they ought to find a resting place. ere there stands

But in the neids, they ought to find a resting place. Some do again fill up their lawns with flowers, And every bed contains too many kinds; And some have avenues up to their doors, And some are laid quite bare unto the winds; And others have fair seats there for their friends—And all those things are good, each in its place: There is a clime that shade and shelter tends To make here healthy, and likewise, More places that unsheltered are, here best always.

Some folks do also cram too, round their doors Fair groups of flowering plants in pots and tubs; And some do statues place, where often towers Each deity of old among their favorite howers: And some do have their trees to grow like spires-And some do elip them into figures too Of various kinds, to startle unawares The pilgrim that there wanders to and fro Among the gardens that with beauty glow.

That is enough, we dare say, to show our readers, once more, the eccentricities—not to be profane, and say absurdities—to which a critic's "Library Table" introduces him. Mr. Sinclair may be an excellent landscape gardener, for aught we know;
—but if he imagines that he has got the Muse for
one of his assistants he has been imposed on by a false character.

MEDICAL BOOKS.

Sketches of Brazil, including new Views of Tropical and European Fever. By Robert Dundas, M.D.—Although fever stands out as one of the most prominent diseases that carry man to an untimely grave, and has been described by every medical writer since the time of Hippocrates—its causes, nature and treatment are still but little understood. Vast, indeed, is the extent of medical literature that has been devoted to the subject. Still, the questions of the identity of one form of fever with another, the causes of their origin, their contagiousness and their treatment, are as far from being settled as ever. As more accurate research is made, and the phenomena of this disease are viewed by the light of modern science,—the more difficult do these problems appear and the farther off seems the desired goal. But much has been recently done by the labours of Louis Cormack, W. Jenner, and others, who, by accumulating facts independent of theory, have gone far towards elucidating the difficulties that surround inquiry into the nature of fever. As an important contribution to this field of inquiry we must add this work by Dr. Dundas. It is the production of a man of accurate observation and sound thought; and although some of his conclusions differ from those of previous writers, they claim consideration. The points of most interest to the medical practitioner are—the denial of the malarious origin of intermittent and other forms of fever—and the recommendation of the treatment of all fevers with large doses of quinine frequently repeated. There is also much matter of general interest in the remarks on fevers of various climates,—the result of personal observation

Varicose Veins and Varicose Ulcers. By T. W. Nunn.-The diseases investigated by the author of this little volume are very common and very troublesome. Not often leading to fatal results, they have become too much neglected by pathologists. Impressed with the necessity of further investigation, Mr. Nunn has made these conditions of the system his especial study. Both in the investigation of the pathological states and in suggestions for treatment he seems to us to have exercised a sound judgment,—and his remarks cannot fail to be of service to those engaged in the treatment of these diseases.

Cheltenham and its Resources. By Edwin Lee. This work is devoted to the mineral water of Cheltenham-and is the result of a prize offered by that town for the best essay on the subject. We are not surprised to find Mr. Lee the successful competitor, -as he has previously devoted his attention to the subject of mineral waters with great effect. Although mineral springs possess no compounds that cannot be imitated by the chemist, yet the treatment of disease by natural springs is found to be much more efficacious than that by artificial waters. As long as the air, the society, the regularity, the food, the exercise of a watering-place are better than those of a sick person's home— so long will mineral springs be had recourse to, and so long will books like this by Mr. Lee be consulted with advantage both by those who recom-mend and by those who use them.

Half-yearly Abstract of the Medical Sciences. July to December, 1851.—This very valuable medical serial continues to be conducted with the same judgment and care that distinguished its commencement. It reflects great credit on Dr. Ranking and his coadjutors.

Physiological Researches. By Sir Benjamin C. Brodie.—The early career of Sir Benjamin Brodie was distinguished by his devotion to science; and his observations on the causes of animal her on the action of poisons on the brain, laid the foundation for the researches which have recently been so satisfactorily made in these departments of physiological inquiry. In the midst of the pressing demands of a laborious professional life, Sir Ben-jamin has found time to think of his first love; and here, in a small octavo volume, with additional notes and observations, are the old essays published first in the 'Philosophical Transactions' forty years ago. Many inquirers in this branch of science will be glad to possess these papers for reference—whilst others have thus given them for the first time the power of studying the original observations for themselves.

On the Nature and Treatment of the Diseases of the Heart. By James Wardrop, M.D.—This work originally appeared in the pages of a medical contemporary:—and as the expression of the views of a man who has long held a prominent position in his profession, it will be valued by his medical

Elementary Anatomy and Physiology. By William Lovett.—We have many elementary treatises on anatomy and physiology,—but few or none intended for general instruction. If there be one subject of more importance than another for man to know in order to secure his happiness on earth, it is that of the structure and function of his body. It should form a subject of instruction in every school; and no person should be allowed to tea who is not competent to explain to boys and girls the known functions of their own principal organs, As a guide to such instruction Mr. Lovett's book e found very useful. It consists of diagrams which are sufficiently accurate, with descriptions and questions:—and is precisely such a book as the general tutor will find of value in acquiring and imparting this kind of knowledge.

The Stomach and its Difficulties. By Sir James

Eyre.-We took up Sir James Eyre's brochure somewhat in anger :--the dignity of the profession we felt to be in some degree compromised by its title. The stomach, too, after the half-century of cant and prose which we have had about it, from the time of Abernethy's constitutional treatment down to that of Paris's principles of dietetics, seemed a stale subject. We should have been more tolerant of the brain-the heart-the skin-or th kidneys. It is a fact that has been demonstrated most clearly within the last ten years that man is not like the monad, all stomach,—that the stomach is not the only subject of science in the system. The "march of intellect" has demonstrated even to port-drinking farmers and hunting squires that they have brains, which are somewhat affected by the intellectual developement of the age. But we have read the Doctor's book,—and must confess to a good deal of amusement and instruction. It is certainly innocent of microscopic demonstrations and of all forms of chemical equations, which we have lately come to regard as almost necessary for a medical dissertation ;-but then, to make up for this, it is full of good sound practical sense, and contains not a little fun. It is a book not for the study, but for the railway and steamboat,—and well worthy of perusal by persons who are beginning to feel that good fortune is not all prosperity and that good health is better than good living. Neither are the Doctor's prescriptions severe or absurd. He gives no directions for pumping on his patients—and exhibits no taint of that delusion which substitutes imaginary infinitesimal doses for the remedies that science and experience point out as best adapted for disease.

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EARLY MANUSCRIPT EMENDATIONS OF THE TEXT OF SHAKSPEARE.

ALTHOUGH I produced my copy of the folio of 1832 before a full assembly of the Council of the Shakespeare Society, and at a recent meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, I am informed and can readily believe-that many members of the latter either had not an opportunity of examining it at all, or were able only to examine it so hastily that they wish to be allowed to inspect it again, under more favourable circumstances. I can have no hesitation in complying; because my desire is, that all who are interested should be gratified as far as possible, and enjoy the means of judging for themselves of the value and curiosity of the book. Therefore, if any of the Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries will do me the favour to meet me in the Library at Somerset House on Friday next, between the hours of 12 and 2, I shall have great pleasure in showing the volume to them. I need hardly add, that as the book is old and in a bad state of preservation, it will be necessary to be careful and cautious in handling it, -particularly as not a few of the emendations in the text are on the outer margins of the leaves. It must also be distinctly understood that no gentleman is at liberty to make memoranda, or in any way to give publicity to the notes or changes which he may inspect.

I have already mentioned, that this corrected copy of the folio of 1632 unfortunately did not come intomy hands until some years after I had completed and published my edition of the works of our great dramatist. In that edition, I proceeded on the principle of adhering scrupulously to the text of the ancient printed copies wherever it was pos-sible to extract a meaning from it; and I ought shie to extract a meaning from it; and I ought perhaps to say here, that my corrected folio of 1632 does not remove by any means all the diffi-culties of particular passages. Some it passes over, and others it erases,—although it alters and ex-plains a great number of them. I have already given a variety of instances in former communica-tions; but in consequence of a letter to which I have replied only this morning, I am tempted to add another,—and thus still farther to establish how incorrectly the first folio (followed by the how incorrectly the first folio (followed by the second) of 1623 was printed, notwithstanding I am convinced that it was at least as well done as any book of the kind of that age, with one exception. It is taken from 'Coriolanus,' act iii. sc. I, where the hero is vehemently arguing against the fitness of giving corn to the lower orders out of the

able error in my own edition, I may be allowed in rative Manufactures:-to which we hear several the first place to quote from it. Coriolanus says-

Which they have often made against the senate, All cause unborn, could never be the native Of our so frank donation. Well, what then? How shall this bosom multiplied digest. The senate's courtesy? Yol. vi. p. 202.

—Reading the passage now, with the new light which I possess, it may seem surprising how I, and all others before me, could permit such nonsense to stand, under the belief that Shakespeare wrote it. How intelligibly and how naturally the extract reads in my corrected folio of 1632:—only bearing in mind that the old word "bisson," used elsewhere in this very relevant in the contraction. in this very play and in the same sense, means

Th'accusation
Which they have often made against the senate,
All cause unborn, could never be the motive
of our so frank donation. Well, what then?
How shall this bison multitude digest
The senate's courtesy?
Surely nothing one.

-Surely nothing can be more self-evident than the propriety and necessity of this emendation, although until now it has never been suggested, and "native" and "bosom multiplied" have been everlastingly repeated as the real language of our great dramatist. One point is, I think, quite certain—that the old corrupt text will never henceforward be imputed to him again.

Maidenhead.

J. PAYNE COLLIER.

Maidenhead.

In the passage above quoted, we see that "bisson" was misprinted in the folios bosom; and in the other instance in which the word occurs in 'Coriolanus' it is misprinted becsom (act 2, sc. 1). But Theobald in that place saw and corrected the

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THREE or four closely-packed sea-chests of un-sorted papers containing what was called 'The Porter Correspondence'—that is, the Diaries of Sir Robert Ker Porter and the Letters addressed to his sisters Jane and Anna Maria Porter-were sold on Saturday last by Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson, in fourteen lots, for 115l. 1s. 6d. Never, we believe, has been seen before in an auction-room such a confused mass of Correspondence, -such a formidable task of unfolding and still more formidable (if possible) of reading. And yet we, the attendants at the sale, were informed that the papers had been looked over for the purpose of auction; Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson wisely declining to be the means of knocking down the secret diaries of a valetudinarian old knight, and the secret correspondence of two old and unmarried authoresses, without some withdrawal of the more private papers. The Herculean labour of dipping into every letter in these huge sea-chests so as to withdraw the more private papers was undertaken by Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson; and the mass for sale was diminished, it is said, by a goodly load of paper fitter for the fire (though in no way derogatory to the character of the parties concerned) than for the shelves of the collector or even the hands of the butterman. It is difficult to imagine how such a heap of unsorted Correspondence could be sent for sale, otherwise than by legal seizure or by remissness greatly to be deplored of executors. The Porter Correspondents have something to dread. The mass catalogued for sale included ninety letters from Mr. N. P. Willis, and "sixtyninety letters from Mr. N. P. Willis, and "sixtythree long and highly interesting letters from Miss
Agnes Strickland, the accomplished authoress."

—The latter were, however, withdrawn; and what
'Miss Agnes' wrote to 'Miss Jane' has for the
present escaped the sneers of the idler and the
clutches of the autograph collector—It is, indeed,
high time to be careful of what we write to a lady friend who will keep our letters; and Mr. Willis's fate and Miss Strickland's escape may be read as useful lessons to gossipping correspondents and careless executors.

The removal of the ornamental manufactures purchased at the Exhibition has taken place during the week to the rooms at Marlborough House which have been lent to the Department of Practical Art. fitness of giving corn to the lower orders out of the public store-houses, and contending that they did not deserve it. As I am pointing out an indisput-

presents have already been made.

Letters have been received by the Hudson's Bay Company announcing the return of Dr. Rae from his expedition to Victoria Land.—The farthest point reached was 70° 30′ north latitude, 101° west longitude,—being about eighty miles west of the magnetic pole.—There Dr. Rae was arrested by ice for nearly a fortnight; and despairing of being able to make further progress, he commenced his journey homewards on the 19th of August.—On his way to the Coppermine River, two pieces of wood, the one oak, the other pine, were picked up. The former appeared to be a stancheon, in the upper end of which there had been a hole, through which a chain had evidently been passed. The piece of pine looked like the butt end of a small flagstaff,—and in Dr. Rae's opinion had certainly belonged to one of Her Majesty's ships, as there were a piece of line and two copper tacks attached Letters have been received by the Hudson's Bay were a piece of line and two copper tacks attached to it, all of which bore the Government mark. If the very decisive traces of Sir John Franklin had not been found within Wellington Channel, denoting not been found within Wellington Channel, denoting his passage that way, these relies would have undoubtedly possessed great importance; for it was always considered highly probable, before the first winter quarters of the missing Expedition were discovered, that the crews of the ice-bound ships, or at least a portion of them, might strike for the north coast of America across Victoria or Wollasters are the strike for the coast of America across Victoria or Wollasters are the strike for the coast of America across Victoria or Wollasters are the strike for the coast of America across Victoria or Wollasters are the strike for the coast of America across Victoria or Wollasters are the coast of the coa ton Land,—and it was on this supposition that Dr. Rae's Expeditions were projected.—Dr. Rae is now on his way to England, and purposes bringing the line, tacks, and portions of the wood with him, which will be examined at the Admiralty by the proper official anthorities.-It is almost unnecessary to add that no intelligence whatever was

gleaned of Franklin or his companions having passed through the country traversed by Dr. Rae. Sir Frederick Madden, the Keeper of the Manu-scripts in the British Museum, has addressed a scripts in the British Museum, has addressed a letter to a weekly contemporary strongly con-demnatory, it is said by that contemporary, of our first article on the Shelley and Byron for-geries. Of the contents of Sir Frederick's letter beyond its general condemnation of ourselves we are not informed; for our contemporary, has, he tells us, studiously abstained from sending it to tells us, studiously abstained from sending it to the printer. Why should Sir Frederick throw himself into the story of the forgerics? Is he the champion of Mr. White? Does he believe the letters to be genuine? Our contemporary has been, we cannot help thinking, somewhat unkind to the angry knight who has no reason on earth to quarrel with us that we can divine. The exact contrary seems to us to be the case. In the very article "condemned" by the Keeper we went somewhat out of our way to pay him a compliment. How Sir Frederick has contrived to torture that compliment into a cause of offence we have no means of judging unless we saw his letter. haste of temper which Mr. Panizzi ascribed to Sir Frederick Madden before the late Museum Commission must surely have been at work when he wounded himself against a proposition which had been spread by us for his express comfort and de-lectation.—We hope it was not from Sir Frederick's letter that our contemporary derived his fact which he parades against us—that Curll lost his ears in the pillory. Curll, were he alive, might institute an action for defamation against our contemporary-and bring his ears (in their natural place) into court. Pope's antagonist was in the pillory, it is true,—but he did not lose his ears. A man may be sentenced to Newgate,—but it does not follow as a consequence that he must be hanged.

The Committee appointed by the Society of Arts to frame a course of action with a view to carrying into effect the proposals of Mr. Chester for a union into effect the proposals of Mr. Chester for a union of all the literary and scientific Institutes, have commenced operations. They have addressed a letter and a set of queries to the secretary of every institution in the country—the latter framed so as to elicit information on the chief points of interest in the projected scheme, but in no way binding the respondents to adhere to any part of their policy. They ask for a return, from, each of the total number of members,—an answer as to

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whether the general idea of Mr. Chester's letters meets with approval,—and, if so, what advantages the particular institution would hope to obtain from union,—what number and kind of lectures each would wish to have provided,—and what each could afford to pay for such lectures? There are two or three subsidiary queries:—such as, whether it would be possible to establish a drawing or modelling school in connexion with the institution—and whether it is desired, should it appear feasible, that a local exhibition of useful inventions should be held in it occasionally? The nature of the replies which shall be obtained to these queries will in a great measure determine the policy to be adopted by the Council of the Society of Arts. But it is also in contemplation to hold a conference of the representatives of all such institutions as shall choose to send them, in London, soon after Easter,—when opinions can be compared and plans discussed with greater chances of a practical

result. The recent police case in which the interests of the National Library had to be maintained against certain members of "the trade"—though doubtless unpleasant to the parties concerned—will not be without its use. From the tenor of letters received from correspondents—who desire to have our opinion on the subject—it would appear that a feeling of indignation exists in regard to it which we can scarcely think justified by the facts. The claim for five copies of every book published is a tax-and like every other tax it will generally seem harsh to the person on whom it presses. But what profession is not taxed? Authors are possibly taxed higher in proportion than any other class,— for not only have they to bear their share of the general burdens of the State, but the whole mass of their raw materials are taxed, from their ink and paper to their advertisements. When they start in trade, publishers know that it is a condition of their business to comply with the statute by send-ing in the copies claimed by the State. The obligation cannot be denied and ought not to be evaded. Mr. Panizzi is therefore right in the principle which he asserted in the police court—that it is not his duty to warn booksellers of their omissions. —But there are exceptions to all rules;—and in the case of Mr. Sowerby, it seems equally clear to us that Mr. Panizzi was wanting in courtesy and consideration after the satisfactory explanation given, and the request previously made for a return of the missing parts of the work to enable Mr. Sowerby to supply them. Mr. Sowerby had no wish evidently to defraud the Library of its copy — and, therefore, protection of the interests of the national collection was not needed in this case as against him. We do not assert that those who maintain that the Museum authorities, before taking the extreme step of calling a man into a police court, should warn him of his neglect—as would be done by the Stamp Office under the like circumstances—take an illogical view of the matter:—for the tax is of a similar nature in both cases. But we think it would be found inconvenient were the same rule to be adopted at the Museum. Such a rule would throw the entire trouble and expense of collecting the works published on the librarians-would be likely to occasion immense lacunæ in the Library-and therefore would have a bad effect on literature itself. But then, in proportion to the despotic nature of the rule should be the mildness of its administration. Severe laws need be seldom carried into effect in all their rigour,—especially where the intention to evade them cannot be made clearly manifest.

On Monday in last week, the members of the Institute of British Architects met in Westminster Abbey, to examine the royal tombs, preparatory to a renewal of the discussion on their present state and suggested restoration. Every facility was afforded by the authorities for a careful examination not only of the particular monuments in question, but of the whole of the church and its appendages; and Mr. G. G. Scott, the architect to the Dean and Chapter, conducted a very numerous party to all the points of interest. The interesting marble and glass mosaics in the pavements and tombs of the thirteenth century were the

chief objects of attraction; and the Shrine of Edward the Confessor was examined with great attention. Mr. Scott has recently cleared out a part of the monument of Queen Philippa, against which the chantry of Henry the Fifth had been built;—bringing into view some of the exquisite shrine-work and statuettes which originally adorned the whole of the sides of the tomb. Some very curious remains of the monastic buildings of the time of the Confessor were inspected in and near the cloisters; and a visit to the triforium was peculiarly gratifying, from the beautiful vistas and effects of light and shade which are obtained in that situation. Prof. Donaldson accompanied the party, and enforced the views already enunciated by him in his paper on the royal monuments.

A Correspondent points out to us that the recent changes in the hours of admittance to the British Museum, which we mentioned last week, are intended to apply to the Reading-room as well as to the general collections, and that this will be inconvenient to students. He contends that "the regulations which may be proper for the general public are not applicable to the frequenters of the Reading-room. The hours of admission to the Reading-room are not nearly so long as they ought to be and might be with proper arrangement. It is in the evening particularly that the Reading-room would be useful to great numbers of students who cannot attend in the day-time. If the reading-rooms of private Societies, such as the London Institution, can be kept open till 10 at night, why not a public Library like the British Museum? It is a mere question of gas-light properly conducted and a relay of streagasts."

relay of attendants.' For some time past the popular mystery has been, the 'Railway Guide.' What the Sphynx was to the ancients Bradshaw has been to the moderns an effective puzzle. When the iron ways were confined to a few trunk lines, the guide book was simple enough; but as the branches increased, as loops were formed and cross-cuts were made—the mystery grew, and the names of the railways no longer indicated their extent or even their direction. Our railway nomenclature is certainly not What ideas are conveyed—as to either length of line, termini, local position, or affluents—by such designations as "Grand Junction" and "Caledonian"? Where does the "Oldham Alliance" take a man to? What is the use of a "Yorkshire and Lancashire" that goes neither to York nor to Lancaster? These and other anomalies have tended to confuse the guide-books, until few besides habitual travellers know exactly where to find the information of which they may be in search,—and consequently "Bradshaw fallen into disuse, if not into discredit, with the casual public. But necessity "sharpens the wit as well as the appetite," and the proprietors have hit on a contrivance equally simple and effective for removing the inconvenience hitherto felt. They now print on the map in red letters a reference to the page on which information respecting a particular town should be sought. This is a real improvement,—and will probably once more make "Bradshaw" popular.

Marshal Marmont, the last of Napoleon's Duke Marshals—and one whose fate was strangely mixed up with the after-storms that blew over the grave of the empire—is said to have occupied the latter years of his life of exile in preparing his Memoirs for posthumous publication.

Letters from Russia announce the death, at the

Letters from Russia announce the death, at the age of sixty, of Lieut. General Seddeler of the Imperial army—author of 'The Military Encyclopædia.'

We learn by the New York journals that a meeting has been held in that city for the purpose of inaugurating a subscription towards the Cooper monument. Mr. Webster presided,—Mr. Bryant delivered a discourse on "the Life and Genius" of the romancer,—Washington Irving, Mr. Bancroft, Dr. Bethune and Mr. G. P. R. James made speeches,—and a great number of American celebrities, including Messrs. Prescott, Longfellow, Hawthorne and Dana, sent letters of adhesion and certificate. The meeting went off with enthusiasm, and the proposed memorial—a statue, we believe, to be erected in one of the public squares—is not

likely to fail for want of funds, if the applause of the night may be taken as any index to the liberality of the morn.

It is desirable that we should be kept inform in this country of the proceedings of a reactionist party on the Continent who seem bent on nothing less than the gradual obliteration of no small part of the progress which has been made since the sixteenth century. Since the commencement of the year, two journals of more or less repute in Paris—the Univers, and the Moniteur Industriet
—have given a distinguished place to a series of
papers by a writer who signs himself M. Coquille, intended to persuade the Government to enter on a crusade against the political economists. dare say, the present French Government is quite sufficiently disposed to activity of that kind with especial exhortation :- but that is not the question. With the theology or the politics, properly so called, of the two journals in question, our col have no concern ;-so long as they confine them selves to their proper sphere, they remain beyond the circle of our cognizance. But when a con-spiracy is carried on by them against the progress of knowledge and the privilege of free scientific inquiry, silence is no longer justifiable. M. Coquille has undertaken—we should think some-what really, to refute Adam Smith and these what rashly—to refute Adam Smith and his most distinguished followers,—and he is quite welcome to do this to the best of his ability. So long as the warfare is confined to argument, we raise not a word of objection. Why should we, when M. Coquille is on one side and Adam Smith and his choicest disciples on the other ?- But M. Coquille is not quite so impartial. He clamours in the name of his party for the abolition of the public professorships of political economy in France the interdiction by public authority of the whole science as a branch of human knowledge. To be sure, this call for the interference of authority is perhaps the very best answer that M. Coquille could give to his own preposterous objections. finds the process of argumentative extermination too slow, -and he wants to quicken it. That must not be permitted. We observe, therefore, with pleasure, that the Journal des Débats has hastened to protest in the most emphatic manner against the new barbarism set up by the Univers:—and we must take care on this side of the Channel that the resources of our own free press are not forgotten in helping to put down at once these subtle advances of a dark and persecuting school not without its organized propaganda in every country in

BRITISH INSTITUTION, PALL MALL.
The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the
WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till
Five.—Admission, iz.; Catalogue, iz.
GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS. incorporated by Royal Charter.—The TWENTY-NINTH AB-NU AL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN from 9-12 until dusk.—Admittance, 1s.

Suffolk Street, Pall Mail East.

Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East.

PATRON-H.R.II. PRINCE ALBERT.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. - PREVENTION of FORGERY. - A LECTURE, by J. H. Pepper, Eag., on Given at Appells PATEST PAPER for the prevention of Finer and Appells PATEST PAPER for the Prevention of Finer and Appells PATEST PAPER for the Prevention of Finer and Appells PATEST PAPER for the Prevention of Finer and Recture and Appells PATEST PAPER for the Proceedings of Forget and Patestal Pales of Appells Patestal Pales for the first time in Fig. 19 and Pales for the first time in Fig. 19 and Pales for the first time in Fig. 19 and Pales for the first time in Fig. 19 and Pales for the first time in Fig. 19 and Pales for the first time in Fig. 19 and Pales for the first time in the West Musical Directions, at Eight decimal which he will introduce twenty Fational Pales for the Various Appells for the Various Royal Pales for

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SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL. — March 10. —W. Hopkins, Est. President, in the chair. —The following communications were read. —'On the Upper Tertiaries at Copford, Essex.' By J. Brown, Esq. —'On a Reversed Fault at Lewisham, Kent.' By the Reversed Fault at L

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formation. A fine series of the fossil land shells of formation. A nine series of the fossii and snells of the island, collected by the author, were also laid on the table, together with bird-bones that accom-pany them; and a description was given of the bed in which these organic remains are chiefly found. The author conceived that this shell bed, now buried beneath five or six feet of vegetable earth, was probably an ancient guano bed, and that the shells had been taken thither by birds.

ASIATIC.—March 6.—Prof. H. H. Wilson in the chair.—The Assistant Secretary read a letter he had received from Col. Rawlinson, who has resumed his official labours at Baghdad, after a few busy weeks at the ruins of Nineveh. This letter is confirmatery of the discoveries promulgated by Dr. Hineks at the close of the last and beginning of the present years; and the coincidence of two independent discoverers, placed thousands of miles apart, will be a strong confirmation of the truth of their readings to those who are unable to investigate for themselves, and an evidence of the value of Col. Rawlinson's 'Indiscriminate List' of Assyrian characters, published in the December number of the Society's Journal. The Colonel says, "I am now satisfied that the black obelisk dates from about satisfied that the black obelisk dates from about 860 n.c. The tribute depicted in the second compartment upon the obelisk comes from Israel: it is the tribute of Jehu. The names are Yahua the son of Khumriya, or איזי the son of Luzzy. Jehu is usually called in the Bible the son of Nimshi (although Jehoshaphat was his actual father;— 2 Kings, ix. 2); but the Assyrians, taking him for the legitimate successor to the throne, named as his father (or rather ancestor) 'Omri, the founder of the kingdom of Samaria; 'Omri's name being written on the obelisk as it is in the inscriptions of Shalmaneser,—where, as you already know, the kingdom of Israel is always called the country of Beth 'Omri. If this identification of name were the only argument in favour of John, I should not so much depend on it; but the King of Syria is also named on the obelisk Khazail, which is exactly the מודאל (2 Chron. xxii. 6) Hazael of Scripture, the 'NATITI' (2 Chron. xxii. 6) Hazael of Scripture, who was the contemporary of Jehu; and in the inscriptions of the obelisk king's father (whom I lave hitherto called Sardanapalus, but whose real name must be read Aseur-akh-bal) there is also a notice of Ithbaal, king of Sidon, who was the father of Jezebel the wife of Ahab, and a cotemporary of Jehu. These three identifications constitute a synchronism on which I consider we may rely, especially as all the collateral evidence comes out satisfactorily. The tributes noted on the obelisk are all from the remote nations of the west; and what more natural than that the tribute of and what more natural than that the tribute of Israel should thus be put next to the tribute from Egypt? There was no Assyrian campaign at this period against either Egypt or Israel, but the kings sent offerings in order to keep on good terms with their eastern neighbour. I have not yet had time to go through the very elaborate history of Assur-adh-bal, cotemporary with the prophet Elijah; but I expect to find several other synchronisms which will set the chronological question at rest for ever,"—The line in which the name of caronisms which will set the chronological question at rest for ever."—The line in which the name of Jehu appears was read by Col. Rawlinson, in his 'Commentary,' published in May 1850,—"Yahua the son of Hubiri," [page 47]: the alteration of the b to mm, in the second syllable of Hubiri, is given in the 'Indiscriminate List' above mentioned. We are now fairly entitled to expect the discovery of more supplementations. of more synchronisms when the mass of inscriptions already published shall be examined, with the aid of Col. Rawlinson's alphabet and analyses, by the many English and foreign sevens who are

The Secretary read a paper by J. Capper, Esq., centaining a 'Brief Notice of the Vegetable Productions of Ceylon.—Mr. Capper was Commissioner for Ceylon at the Exhibition. He has been induced to

by Europeans, during the 350 years that it has been known to them. When Ceylon became a British dependency, it was deemed valuable only for its pearls and spice; but now the pearl fishery has ceased to be productive, the cinnamon trade has dwindled into an almost profitless speculation, has dwindled into an aimost prontices speculation, and coffee has become the staple commodity. At the period when the Portuguese settlers first inhabited the island, coffee was found growing wild; but the Portuguese paid little or no attention to the plant, and it was not known as an article of culture or trade until the island had been long without the rule of the Dutch at the close of whose under the rule of the Dutch, at the close of whose under the rule of the Dutch, at the close of whose administration the amount produced is stated at 2,200 cwt. Although the British did not obtain possession of the interior of the island, in which the coffee districts are situated, until 1815, the annual crop now reaches to 300,000 cwt. Cinnamon has from the earliest times been one of the productions of the island; but up to the time of the Dutch, it was not subjected to culture. When the Dutch Governor, Falck, first attempted to cultivate the plant, he was much opposed by the natives. Some improvement was effected, but it was not until the island had been a British possession more than twenty years, that it received a was not until the island had been a Dritish posses-sion more than twenty years, that it received a careful and skilful cultivation. Notwithstanding these improvements, however, the cinnamon trade with India, Persia, and Arabia has entirely ceased; while the exports to Europe, and the price in the London market, have greatly fallen. Coir and cocoanut oil, the valuable productions of the cocoa-nut palm, are now exported in large quantities. The cultivation of sugar has failed through the soil not being sufficiently rich; and at present only two or three estates are cultivated with sugar, partially only, and that chiefly for home consumption. Cardamoms, ebony, sapan dye-wood, and some essential oils, are exported to Europe. To-bacco, areca-nuts, cocoa-nuts, and arrack, are sent in considerable quantities to the continent of India; and the other chief productions, as cotton, rice, maize, arrow-root, manioca, &c. are cultivated for home consumption only. Attempts have been made to introduce American cotton, with an improved mode of culture, and some fine specimens have been produced; but either from the heavy cost of the cultivation, or the exhausting nature of the crop, the experiments have ceased. Several varieties of rice are cultivated; but the total production is not nearly sufficient for the wants of the population, and the deficiency is made up by importation, by the cultivation of maize to a limited extent, and by a great variety of fine grains, which are grown chiefly on poor soils, and enter largely into the food of the lower orders.

Society of Antiquaries.—Feb. 26.—Lord Mahon, President, in the chair.—T. Leach, Esq. was elected an ordinary, and M. Lelewel of Brussells an extraordinary, member. The subject of Bishop Lyndewode and the discovery of his body was renewed:—about which, as we have already hinted, a great deal too much has been said already. The President deprecated further discussion, and required members who were still determined to talk about it to confine themselves strictly to the immediate question. Mr. Pettigrew took the hint, and merely vindicated himself from soriety to the immediate question. Mr. Pettigrew took the hint, and merely vindicated himself from some remarks which he heard had been made upon him by the keeper of antiquities in the British Museum when he (Mr. Pettigrew) happened to be absent. The only material point was, the supposed desceration of the body by separating the cere-cloth and the deportation of the sandals; and after a few words from Mr. Hawkins the matter terminated.—An interesting paper by Mr. Faulkner was read relating to some new excavations recently made by him at Pompeii. He had found the house of an actor, or of a manager of a somer for Ceylon at the Exhibition. He has been induced to draw up this summary in consequence of the many inquiries made as to the productions of the island; for although coffee and cinnamon are well known to be staples of the Ceylon trade, the articles which are cultivated in the island for local use are seldom heard of. A catalogue of articles produced is given in the paper; and it is worthy of remark, that of the long list, only one

item, that of sugar, was introduced into the island Roman sword, found, we believe, in the north of England; but it possessed no remarkable features to distinguish it from other weapons of the same kind, many of which have been exhibited to the

Society.

March 4.—J. Payne Collier, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The chief interest of the proceedings arose out of the exhibitions. Perhaps the most striking of these was, a jewel of sapphire and brilliants, sent by Mr. Murray, containing in the centre a portrait of Walter Devereux, the first Earl of Essex of that family, who was created in 1571, and died in Ireland (of which he was Earl Marshal) in 1576. The relic had also been the property of his unfortunate son Robert, the wayward favourite of Queen Elizabeth, heheaded in 1600. A question arose Elizabeth, beheaded in 1600. A question arose whether the setting was as old as the period; and the Chairman called on Mr. Shaw, who from and the Chairman called on Mr. Shaw, who from his acquaintance with the subject must be able to settle the point. This learned gentleman de-cided that the setting, or part of it, was more modern, and of coarser workmanship than was employed upon such productions in the reign of Elizabeth. Nevertheless, he admitted that the in-scription at the back, "Fide et fortitudine, 1575," was genuine, and that the portrait (on a large sapphire) must have been the work of a most skilful artist. As the Chairman pointed out, the interest artist. As the Chairman pointed out, the interest of the jewel was much enhanced by the fact that at the side of his father's head, and to perpetuate his connexion with the jewel, Robert Earl of Essex had had his name engraved, with the date of 1598, when he was in Ireland, and whence he so unexpectedly and suddenly returned for the purpose of regaining his place in the Queen's affections, which had been usurped by Sir Walter Raleigh. The exhibition next in interest and importance was of a much earlier date, and consisted of a noble Anglo-Saxon buckle, apparently for a waist-belt, of gold, in which were set two precious stones of a fine crimson, one of which was nearly an inch and a half in length by an inch broad, and the other was smaller. The name of the owner did not transpire. -Mrs. Colston sent a small but very curious assem-—Mrs. Colston sent a small but very curious assemblage of Anglo-Saxon female personal ornaments, consisting of fibule, amulets, pins, rings, chains, &c., all stones set in gold, and in the most perfect state of preservation.—Mr. R. Cole placed upon the table in a glass case some valuable South American antiquities, also of gold and very large and massive: one of these was a skull-cap of the size of the head, covered with Indian devices well engraved. But the object that attracted most attention was the entire figure of a female in a stooping posture, about eight inches high, which stooping posture, about eight inches high, which had obviously been the support of a very large cup, most likely gold with jewels, and perhaps of inestimable price. The figure alone was composed of as much pure metal as would manufacture several hundred sovereigns. These curiosities had several hundred sovereigns. These curiosities had been dug up near Bogota, and were the property of a gentleman to whom, as we understood, they had been remitted in payment of a debt: they belonged unquestionably to a period of most remote antiquity, but nobody was at all prepared to assign a date to them.—These exhibitions were followed by the reading of a paper by the Rev. J. L. Petit, on the church of St. Radagund at Tours, L. Petit, on the church of St. Radagund at Tours, part of which was certainly as old as the fifth or sixth century, although the main body of the structure was raised about six hundred years afterwards. This communication was illustrated by some clever drawings, but not well calculated for the purpose, since being made with a reed pen, they were too coarse to show clearly the minute and beautiful details of architecture.—Mr. Akerwar, which stringle super reparks on the attitude super man furnished some remarks on the attitude supman furnished some remarks on the attitude sup-posed to be of benediction in Byzantine paintings and sculpture; and Sir Henry Ellis new particu-lars respecting early voyages and naval enterprises by British ships, especially in the reign of Eliza-beth. Historically these details were of great value, but the conclusion of the paper was neces-arily deferred. sarily deferred.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE. - March 17 .-Sir J. Doratt in the chair .- Mr. Colquboun read Some Remarks on the History of Usury, and the Laws relative to Money-lending, in Greece, but

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more especially in Rome.'—Mr. Birch addressed the meeting, in elucidation of the wars and diplomatic intercourse between the Egyptians and the remarkable people, the Khita, so frequently mentioned in the monuments.—In the early stage of Egyptian discovery the Khita were believed to have been the same as the Abyssinians; more recent researches, however, show that they are to be looked for nearer Egypt. According to Osburn, Bunsen, and Rawhinson, they were the Hittites of Scripture, inhabiting the north of the land of Cansan. Astaroth, or Astarte, was a deity of the Khita. Mr. Birch's observations had relation chiefly to the three following documents, which combine to throw light on this obscure portion of Egyptian history; viz.:—I. An Inscription in Rosellini, comprising numerous details respecting the diplomatic relations of the Egyptians with the neighbouring nations. 2. The Sallier Papyrus, which records the praises of Rameses the Second, or the Great, on his conquest of the Khita. 3. The Treaty between Rameses and the chief of the Khita,—a partial copy of which is engraved in Mr. Burton's 'Excerpta Hieroglyphica.'

Institute of British Architects.-March 22. -C. Fowler, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The discussion 'On the State of the Royal Tombs in Westminster Abbey' was resumed and concluded. -Mr.W. Burgess contributed a drawing of Edward the Confessor's Shrine restored to its former magnificence, in accordance with the best authorities on the subject; and Mr. S. Cundy, the Abbey mason, forwarded for inspection his model, in alabaster and Purbeck marble, of part of the tomb of Queen Philippa,—a work which was much admired in the Great Exhibition. Mr. G. G. Scott added to his former statements a few historical facts respecting the shrine; and Mr. Digby Wyatt made some remarks on the forms and arrangements of ancient shrines, and on the arts of mosaic and enamel, as illustrated by the specimens in Westminster Abbey. Though averse to restoration generally, he referred to the Arch of Titus at Rome, the general form of which had been completely and successfully restored; the ornamental details of the new portion being left imperfect, so that the original work might readily be distinguished from the restorations. This judicious mode of repairing a dilapidated monument might be advantageously imitated.—After some observations by Mr. W. Burgess, Mr. J. P. Seddon and others, Prof. Donaldson gave practical effect to the discussion by moving "That the Council be requested to draw up a humble address, to be presented to the Queen, praying that her Majesty will be pleased to appoint a commission for the purpose of taking into consideration the dilapidated condition of the royal tombs in Westminster Abbey, with a view to the adoption of such measures as may be proper for the preservation and perpetua-tion of those important national monuments; and that the seal of the Institute be affixed thereto." The motion was unanimously agreed to.

HORTICULTURAL.-March 16.-Sir C. Lemon, Bart., in the chair.—W. Hunt, Esq., was elected a Fellow.—Among subjects of exhibition Mr. Meredith, gardener to the Duke of Sutherland, at Cleifden, sent some specimens of Begonia manicata, and a hybrid raised between that sort and hydrocotylifolia. It had the general aspect of hydrocotylifolia, but added the constitutional vigour and some other peculiarities belonging to manicata; while altogether it was a more desirable plant than either of its parents. A Banksian medal was awarded it. The same exhibitor furnished a bouquet, with a view to illustrate a good mode of packing such things for travelling. Two parallel lines of string, about an inch apart, were fastened between the four opposite sides of a square wooden box so as to intersect each other in the middle, but at different levels. The shank of the bouquet was then passed down where the lines intersect, embedded up to the flowers in damp moss, and tied firmly to the bottom of the box. In this way the bouquet is kept fast in one position and travels safely .- Messrs. Henderson sent Epacris hyacinthifora candidissima; a curious little deep yellow-flowered Acacia called Squamata, with needle-like

processes in the place of leaves; four plants of the Cape Lachenalia luteola; and a good specimen of Dielytra spectabilis, whose flowers were, however, somewhat deficient in colour, owing to their having been produced in too much heat. A Certificate of Merit was awarded it.—Messrs. Jackson sent two Seedling Camellias named Duchess of Buccleuch and Martinii. The latter is a promising deep crimsonflowered kind, with a white stripe down the centre of each petal. - Mrs. Lawrence sent a fine example of the Hong Kong Enkianthus reticulatus, the charming Boronia triphylla covered with pink starry flowers, the white Eriostemon scabrum, Styphelia tubiflora, Lycaste Skinneri, the long-tailed Lady's Slipper (Cypripedium caudatum), and cut flower spikes of Amerstia nobilis. It was mentioned that at Ealing Park the Amherstia is now as large as a good sized appletree; that it has been in flower ever since Christmas; that nearly 170 spikes of lovely inflorescence have been cut from it; and that about as many more yet remain on the tree. A Certificate of Merit was awarded for the Cypripedium, and a Banksian Medal for the stove and greenhouse plants.—
An example of the Sikkim Rhododendron ciliatum. of which a good specimen was shown at the last meeting by Messrs. Standish & Noble, was furnished by Sir Joseph Paxton, from Chatsworth. On this occasion it was as colourless as the white Indian Azalea; but whether this was constitutional, or merely the effect of circumstances, could not in the present instance be clearly determined. -Mr. Ingram, gardener to Her Majesty at Frogmore, sent a pretty Epacris, a seedling from mi niata, and a Cayenne pine-apple, weighing 7lb. 2oz. A Banksian Medal was awarded for the latter .-From Mr. Tillery, gardener to the Duke of Portland, came ripe fruits of the Japan medlar (Eriobotrya Japonica), for which a Certificate of Merit was awarded. They were the produce of a tree which fills an entire house at Welbe k, and from which three or four dishes were stated to have been gathered weekly for these last six weeks, and a considerable quantity is said still to r in on the tree.—From the Society's garden cam, a pretty pink Azalea, sent from China by Mr. Fortune; Rhododendron Nilagiricum, an exceedingly handsome bright rose-coloured kind; Forsythia viridissima; the New Holland Dendrobium Kingianum; the little green-flowered Clematis pedicellata; and some other plants, together with cuttings of the following fruit trees, viz., Jersey Gratioli, a rich melting pear which ripens in October; March Bergamot, one of our best late pears; Cerise de Spa, a new variety that has not yet fruited in the garden, but which is described as being first rate, ripening in July; and Millfield apple, apparer thy a new kind, which was stated to have been a ceived by the Society from Messrs. Young, of Epsom; it is roundish, or somewhat Pearmain-shaped, with a rich yellowish flesh. It is in perfection in December and January.

LINNEAN .- March 2 .- R. Brown, Esq. in the chair.—A collection of specimens from the Herba-rium of the late Dr. Sibthorp illustrative of the Flora Græca, and collected by Dr. Sibthorp during his travels in Greece—was presented by Dr. Daubeny.—Mr. Adam White exhibited several specimens of the Eurostus validus, of Dallas, captured by Mr. Fortune in the north of China, and drew attention to the fact that, although the insect when dry was brown, when immersed in spirits of wine it became of a beautiful green colour. Mr. White made some remarks on the importance of ascertaining the colours of insects during life, as in many cases the appearance of preserved specimens is very different.—Mr. Hope exhibited a series of drawings of the insects of Australia by the Misses Harriet and Helena Scott, intended to illustrate a great work on the Entomology of Australia by their brother. The drawings, which were remark able for their beauty and accuracy, were accom panied by a paper from Mr. Swainson containing remarks on the more remarkable forms of insects contained in the collection. These notes were confined chiefly to the butterflies and moths, of which family many rare and beautiful species are found in Australia.—Mr. Hope exhibited a fruit of the Araucaria Bidwellii. This tree attains a

height of eighty or ninety feet, and produces a fruit the size of a man's head.—A continuation of Mr. Wood's botanical tour in France was read.—Dr. T. Thompson was elected a Fellow.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—March 1.—J. O. Westwood, Esq., President, in the chair.—Mr. Lubbock ex-hibited a quantity of Sirex duplex, which abounded in larch trees in woods between Bromley and Sevenoaks. Out of one hundred specimens reared, it was remarkable that there was but one female.-Mr. A. White, on the part of Mr. Leycester, exhibited some insects from New Holland and New Zealand; among them Campylocnemus Schrateri, with curved hind tibiæ, somewhat resembling the hind tibize of the allied genus Scaptocarenum, which were not only curved but subfossorial, a formation not otherwise known among Cara bidæ.-Mr. Bond exhibited a pupa of Sphinz Ligustri, with the sheath of the tongue bifurcate,-Mr. S. Stevens exhibited some beautiful butterflies from Australia, China and Brazil. the latter were Epicalia Antiochus and Myscelia Medea, which Mr. Bates had discovered were sexes of one species. Informed of this fact, the President had examined the specimens of these genera in the British Museum, and found that all marked like the Epicalise were males, and like the Myscelise were females; also that Doubleday's genus Epiphile would be abolished, and most of the species be referred to Epicalia.-Mr. Douglas exhibited a Dipterous larva voided by a gentleman who had been in ill health for some years. This larva was naked and attenuated, and quite unlike the larvæ described and figured by the Rev. L. Jenyns in the 2nd volume of this Society's Transactions. It was probably one of the Muscide. Some discussion ensued on the probable mode in which insect larvæ were conveyed into the human body; the President stating that in some instance it might be with food, and mentioned that in the Jardin des Plantes some of the serpents had been fed with flies, that in a few weeks they swelled fed with mes, that in a both agreatly, and shortly after died, when it was found they were full of larvæ hatched from fertilized eggs they had fed.—Mr. within the flies on which they had fed .-- M Douglas exhibited pieces of stems of Solanum dulcamara, containing young larvæ of Gelechia contella hybernating in the centre.-Mr. White exhibited a Belostoma, a Hemipterous insect, caught at sea in the Persian Gulf. The captain of the vessel in which it was taken had informed him that clouds of the same species flew over; and Mr. White thought it a new fact that they should assemble in such numbers and be found at sea,although, as Mr. Saunders remarked, it was not uncommon in India to see two or three Belostome flying together in the evening.-Mr. Douglas exhibited a Monochamus sartor, taken on the banks of the Regent's Canal, and a Coccinella reppensis, found by him at Mickleham last July.—Mr. S. Stevens mentioned that for the third year he had reared Dryophila anobioides from the same stump of broom; and Mr. Smith stated, that for seven years in succession he had reared Ochina ptinoide from a stem of ivy, which had been that time in his possession .- Among the donations on the table was a box of insects from J. C. Bowring, Esq., Corresponding Member at Hong Kong, among which was a specimen of the singular Lepidopter-ous parasite upon Fulgora. It had the appearance of an Orgyia, and Mr. Bowring proposed for it the name of Epipyrops anomala.—Mr. Curtis read a paper on an instantaneous method of removing mouldiness from preserved insects by means of the vapour of boiling alcohol, and showing how a quantity could be operated on at once.—Mr. Douglas read a translation from the Stettin 'Entomologische Zeitung,' of a note on the singular larva of Phorodesma smaragdaria and its habits .- Mr. White mentioned that the Italians had a method of preserving Crustacea, so that the joints remained flexible, but the means by which this was accomplished were a secret.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—March 2.— J. M. Rendel, Esq., President, in the chair.— 'On the Electric Telegraph, and the principal Improvements in its construction,' by Mr. F. R. Window.—After a brief notice of some of the early 7,'52

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or seve ptinoides time in systems of telegraphs employed by the ancients, such as beacon fires, and the escape of water from perforated vessels, as described by Polybius, and also a few of those of modern construction, such as Amonton and Chappe's semaphores and the Universal Telegraph invented by Major-General Sir Charles Pasley; a description was given of some experiments made in the last and present centuries experiments made in the last and present centuries on the possibility of transmitting electricity to considerable distances, with the view of adapting this power to telegraphic purposes. Among these were mentioned the experiments of Du Fay, who, in France, in the year 1733, discharged a Leyden jar through upwards of four miles of wire; of Winckler, who, at Leipzic, in 1746, discharged a Layden jar through a long wire, a portion of the Leyden jar through a long wire, a portion of the river Pleiss being included in the circuit; and of Dr. Watson, who, in 1747, suspended a length of two miles of wire on posts at Shooter's Hill, and sent electrical currents through it, the circuit being completed by the earth. This was particularly noted, because in all the earlier inventions of the present century a separate wire was reserved for this purpose. The general existing system of electric telegraphs was then examined, and divided by the author into three distinct departments: 1st, the battery, or the motive power; 2nd, the wires and their insulation, or the means of conveying the power to the place of its action; and, 3rd, the instruments, or the means of using the power. Of the two former there was little to be related, inasmuch as they had received scarcely any attention from inventors, which the author regretted, as he thought these departments offered the widest field for substantial improvement. The ordinary voltaic batteries were then described, together with the method of obtaining electricity from the permanent magnet, as employed by Cooke and by Henley, and the manner in which it was adapted to the use of the telegraph. The means of insulation were mentioned as specially needing reform; the present above-ground system being uncertain and imperfect in its action, and the under-ground systems too expensive in their construction. It was explained, that the object of Mr. Edwin Clark's metallic capped insulators was to prevent dew from being deposited upon the porcelain cups, as was always the case from the good radiating qualities of all non-conductors. The invention consisted in surrounding the insulators with a metallic substance, by which, from the bad absorbing properties of metals, the radiation from the porcelain was greatly metals, the radiation from the porcelain was greatly checked, and it was thus prevented from cooling down below the dew point. A short description was then given of the principal existing instruments; amongst which were Cooke's five needle, Cooke & Wheatstone's double and single needle, Wheatstone's indicating, Bain's chemical decomposition, Henley's magnetic, Brett's printing, and Bakewell's Conving the prevent concluded by copying telegraphs. The paper concluded by asserting, that the present systems of electric telegraph must by no means be considered as perfect; and inventors were recommended to turn their attention to the improvement of the batteries, and the means of insulating the wires, rather than to the production of new instruments, in which division it was stated that perfection could probably be carried little further until some important changes

were effected in the other two departments.

'The History, Theory and Practice of the Electric Telegraph,' by Mr. C. C. Adley.—The first portion of the paper contained a description of the various modes of transmitting signals proposed and adopted prior to the electric telegraph.

The plans of Cardinal Bembo, the Marquis of Worcester, Robert Hooke, Amonton, Marcel, Linguet, and Chappe were noticed. The various ariting save were then described. These were divided into two eras, the Electro-static and Electrodynamic. The electro-static era comprised all telegraphs in which statical, or frictional, electricity was graphs in which statical, or frictional, electricity was the acting principle,—such as the plans of Odier, Lesage, Lomond, Betancourt, Reiser, Cavallo, Salva, and Ronalds. The electro-dynamic era in-cluded all telegraphs in which voltaic, or dynamic, legation. stated all telegraphs in which voltage of the tele-electricity was the prime mover,—as were the tele-graphs of Sömmerring, Schweiger, Wedgewood, Core, Ampère, Dyar, Schilling, Gauss, Alexander,

Wheatstone, &c. This brought the chronology of | Fai. wheatstone, &c. Into brought the chronology of the electric telegraph to the year 1837, and the history was then concluded to the year 1851 by a classified list of the various patents. The second part of the paper was devoted to the theory and practice of the electric telegraph; and the subject was enlarged on under the following heads:—1st, The principles adouted: 2nd The materials em. The principles adopted; 2nd, The materials emprinciples adopted; 2nd, The materials em-ployed; 3rd, Practical difficulties, and remarkable deranging causes, with investigations as to their origin; 4th, The laws which govern the action of the telegraph; 5th, Theories of the mode of trans-mission of the electric fluid, and of the earth-circuit; and, 6th, Practical applications and concluding remarks. These heads were again subdivided, and the various portions of the telegraph were treated of separately. The modes of connecting the instruments at the stations were given in detail, together with several practical rules for detecting faults, and the general manipulation of a line. Various defects which occurred in practice were pointed out, and the consideration of remedies was invited. The action of the aurora borealis, the de-magnetization of the needles by lightning, and their frequent derangement by other disturbances, were noticed. A lengthened and elaborate investigation was entered into with a view of arriving at the origin of the periodic deflections of the magnetic needles, which the author attributed chiefly to the electric variations of the atmosphere, magnetic storms, earth currents, thermo-electric currents and caloric. An original law which governed the deflections of the magnetic needles was introduced by the author. The laws of Profs. Wheatstone and Ohm were also given, as well as the theories of Dr. Faraday, Magrini, Gauss and other philosphers. The various amplications of the electric sophers. The various applications of the electric telegraph were then described, such as:—1st, For printing; 2nd, For working a series of clocks iso-chronously objecther; 3rd, For the comparison of the pendulums; 4th and 5th, for registering meteorological observations; 6th, For producing explosions for seissting; 7th, For comparative astronomical observations; 8th, Chronoscopes, for measuring the flight of cannon balls, &c. After citing proofs of the commercial value and public service of the electric telegraph, the paper concluded with a few observations as to the ultimate destiny and worldwide utility of so wonderful an invention.

Messrs. J. Beatty, S. Downing, R. Garrett, J. Vaughan, J. Whichcord, and Capt. Whitty were

elected Associates.

March 9, 16.—J. M. Rendel, Esq., President, in the chair.—In the discussion on the two papers by Mr. Window and Mr. Adley on the Electric Telegraph, the arious instruments introduced by Cooke & Wheate-one, Henley, Brett, Bain, Bakewell, and Siemens were exhibited and described, their

and Siemens were exhibited and described, their several peculiar merits being fully explained.

March 23.—J. M. Rendel, Esq., President, in the chair.—'On the Results of the use of Tubular Boilers, or of Flue Boilers of Inadequate Surface, or Imperfect Absorption of Heat,' by Admiral Earl Dundonald.—'On certain Points in the Construction of Steam Boilers,' by Mr. J. Scott Russell.—'A description of a Diaphragm Steam General's Marchine of the Property of President Property of the Property o rator,' by M. Boutigny (d'Evreux).

ROYAL INSTITUTION .- Feb. 27 .- The Duke of Northumberland, President, in the chair.—Dr. Lyon Playfair 'On three important Chemical Discoveries from the Exhibition of 1851:—Mercer's Contraction of Cotton by Alkalies,—Young's Paraffine and Mineral Oil from Coal,—and Schrötter's Amorphous Phosphorus.'

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mox. Royal Institution, 4.—'On the Chemistry of the Metals,' by Mr. C. B. Mansfield.

— Institute of Actuaries, 7.— Assumes Companies, and on ditions will institute of Actuaries, 7.— Assumes Companies, and on ditions will justify; by Mr. C. Jellicos.

Tors. Royal Institution, 3.—'On Animal Physiology,' by Prof. T. W. Jones.

— Chemical, 8.

— Civil Engineers, 8.—'On the Drainage of the Town of Richmond,' by Mr. G. Donaldson.

WED. Royal Institution, 4.—'Un the Chemistry of the Metals,'

— Ethnological, Indiffuser 8.—'On the Ethnography of Arica, by Mr. R. Cull.

Thura. Royal Institution, 3.—'On the Physical Principles of the Stearn-Engine,' by the Rev. J. Barlow, M.A.

— Zoological, 3.—General Business.

Royal Institution, half-past 8.— 'On the Blackheath Pebble Bed, and on orriain Phanomena in the Gleekery Archeological Institute, 6. Philological, 8. Modical, 8.—Countil.

Botanical, 8.

Royal Institution, 3.—'On some of the Arts connected with Organic Chemistry, by Prof. W. T. Brande.

Asiatic, 2.

Medical, 8.

FINE ARTS

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Tragic Muse. By Sir Joshua Reynolds. Engraved by Mr. Joseph Webb.
This is a print of moderate dimensions, executed after the renowned example of Sir Joshua's mastery in his art-the distinguished ornament of the Grosvenor Gallery—justly characterized as the highest example of British portraiture. By the instrumentality of Mr. Webb's art we are now enabled to secure a copy of a picture the former prints of which, engraved on a larger scale, are not easy of access in fine condition,—and when to be had, are so only at prices not within the reach of moderate means. Any enterprise which renews our acquaintance with such art is to be welcomed, as a means of correcting the vitiated taste of some of our portrait painters and counteracting the conventions into which they have fallen.

the conventions into which they have fallen.

Medical Psychologists. Drawn on Stone by G. B.

Black, after Daguerrectypes by J. E. Mayall.

A group is here put together of four of the celebrities of their profession; and it is interesting to be able thus to compare the varieties of physiognomical character presented. Here we have Messrs. Monro,

W. Lawrace, and Sutherland seated raund a table W. Lawrence, and Sutherland seated round a table in conversation,—while Mr. Forbes Winslow standing up, forms the apex of the group. What we have before noticed appears once more here:— whether owing to any better mechanical agency, we know not,—but a superiority of expression, an air of vitality, and an absence of that cadaverous and triste look which too often disfigure the portraits that are the results of the daguerreotype process, are always observable in Mr. Mayall's renderings.

Portrait of Joseph Hume, M.P. Drawn on stone by the same, after a daguerreotype by the same. This bears a most extraordinary resemblance to the honourable member for Montrose,—free from any of the exaggeration to which his hard but honest face was liable. There could scarcely have been conceived a more difficult face to be submitted to the action of the lens,—nor could a more favourable result well have been obtained than what we have here at Mr. Mayall's hands.

Lillian. By the same Artists.

This is remarkable as a good study of a little girl,
—full of the playful character of Tennyson's lines
which form its epigraph.

The Hero and his Horse, on the Field of Waterloo. Engraved by W. T. Davey, from a picture painted by B. R. Haydon.

The title suggests the materials of the performance—on whose demerits we prefer to preserve a respectful silence. Let us say merely, that this was not the sort of arean in which the painter of this picture could hope to achieve reputation.

Good Doggie. Engraved by Mr. Thomas Land-seer, after the picture by Sir Edwin Landseer. Or this engraving after the picture of, we believe, Lady Murchison's pet dog, it is not too much to say that it is the very perfection of its style. No one among the many engravers after Sir Edwin's pictures—and they are legion—succeeds better than his brother in obtaining the varieties of texture or surface,—while few so well understand the atruetures of the animals on which he is called to exercise his graver. The print is one that will in after-time, with many another of like qualities, make Mr. Thomas Landseer's name familiar as one of the most skilful engravers of the inferior animals

in the whole range of his art.

Laying down the Law. Engraved in mezzotint by
Mr. George Zobel, from the picture by Sir Edwin

WHEN the original picture appeared, objections were taken by us to the epigrammatic manner of its treatment,—and we see no reason to retract the opinion which we then expressed. Divested of the

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magic of the painter's executive skill and deprived of its colour, it shows when reduced, as here, to its elements of form and light and shade, as little better than a caricature. The painter's art is lowered by the forms which he has selected as the medium of

The Destruction of Jerusalem by Titus. Drawn on Stone by Louis Haghe, from the picture by David Roberts, and printed in colours by Day & Son. Or this leviathan lithograph—for it is of exceeding great dimensions—it must be observed, in addi-tion to our remarks on the picture itself at the time of its exhibition, that it has a trivial to the same of the s of its exhibition, that it has had the advantage of Mr. Haghe's superior skill in a branch of the art in which he takes the lead. That the respective powers of both painter and engraver are adequately represented in the coloured impression—we write with one before us—will scarcely be allowed. We prefer for ourselves the quiet and classic character of a plain engraving to the garishly-coloured print, which suggests the idea either of imperfect mechanical appliance, or of that rapidity and system of manipulation which the process of print-colour-ing always implies—generally to the vulgarization of what it has to deal with.

The Cork River from Lota Park. Drawn on Stone by T. Picken after R. L. Stopford, A topographical print of no very distinguished excellence.

The Transept of the Great Exhibition looking North. Drawn on the Spot and engraved by T. A. Bain.

One of the thousand records of the great undertaking which will convey to future time information of its contents.

An English Merry-Making in the Olden Time. Engraved by Mr. Holl, from the picture by W. P. Frith. Published by the Art-Union Society of London for 1852.

This is undoubtedly the most successful print that has yet been circulated under the auspices of the Society. Its selection was happy in more than one respect; for while it gives a good representation of our native powers in a class of Art in which Mr. Frith stands most prominent, it is at the same time national in its record of one of our scenes of agricultural relaxation. The inspiration which the painter has caught from the theme, to which the integrities of time, place, and character have most fittingly lent their aid, is well represented by the engraver's art :-- a task of no small difficulty where so many objects of contrasting character had to be rendered. Holl has acquitted himself well is, most certain, as it also is, that from all these circumstances the print must surely become a favourite.

Designs for Monumental Tombs, &c. By D. A. Clarkson.

EVINCE once more the predetermination of the time to make everything appertaining to ecclesiastical matters recur to middle-age type for precedent. This is subversive alike of originality and of sound principle.

Louis Kossuth. Drawn on Stone by Thomas Fairland, after the original by Thomas Skaife.
This is not a very remarkable presentment of the ex-Governor of Hungary,—neither are its preten-

sions advanced by any great artistic merit.

His Grace the Duke of Norfolk. Painted by T. M.

Joy, engraved by G. Zobel.

This whole-length mezzotint of the hereditary Earl Marshal of England and quondam Master of the Horse to the Queen, with all its concomitants of regimentals and background, in no way realizes the pretension of its sounding title. As a specimen of individual character or of individual art it will scarcely meet with popular acceptance or survive the day of its immediate production.

FINE-ART GOSSIP .- Messrs. Paul and Dominic Colnaghi have bought of Mr. Charles Turner the collection of touched proofs of the twentyfour plates of the 'Liber Studiorum' engraved by Mr. Turner, and commented on in pencil at the sides by the great artist whose genius they seek to represent by means of copper, ink, and white paper. The collection, forming an oblong folio volume, contains etchings and proofs in various stages of all the plates engraved by Mr. Turner,

with a specimen considered to be unique, being the painter's own engraving of the 'Interior of a Church,' showing the state of the copper as sent to the scraper of Charles Turner. We have had an opportunity of examining this volume and of comparing it with what is considered to be a choice copy of the book itself! How different are the impressions! What brightness—what effect of distance, aye and of foreground too, in the touched proofs—over even very good impressions. We might compare the difference to the appearance of a ripe plum before its dew or meal has been once fingered. Turner was anxious about the effect of all his works—and especially so in the case of the 'Liber.' In more than one remark he calls the engraver's attention to the etchings by Claude; and doubts in one instance if he shall have cause to be pleased with the union of their names on the same plate unless the work is better-and better it accordingly becomes. Of one he says, "I think the whole sky would be better a tone lighter,"—and of another, "it wants air throughout and scraping to render it like the place." All his remarks are to the point, and all his touches are instructive. The volume has been thoughtfully offered by Messrs. Colnaghi to the Trustees of the British Museum; and unless the price is outrageous-which we are assured is not the case—the Trustees would do well to secure a volume of lessons in landscape painting and engraving by so eminent a master.

Mr. Prout has directed by will that his finished water-colour drawings, his studies on the spot, and those works of his own pencil with which he would not part though often tempted by large sums so to do, shall be handed over for sale by his family to his friend Mr. S. Leigh Sotheby. Catalogues are now preparing:—so that, if the artistic world misses Turner's sale of drawings this year, Mr. Prout's sale at Sotheby & Wilkinson's will at least not allow the purse-strings of

the collectors to remain undrawn.

We hope our London readers will not have missed seeing during the week just concluded the collection of oil-paintings and water-colour pictures the property of Mr. Sigismund Rucker of Wandsworth, formerly the great grower of fine and expensive orchids. The collection was on sale at Christie's yesterday, and is to-day; -and includes one of Mr. Hart's best performances, 'A Procession in a Synagogue,'—one of Mr. Roberts's latest and best works, 'The Interior of a Church at Antwerp, three choice sea-pieces by Mr. E. W. Cooke,charmingly painted cattle-subjects by Mr. Sydney -a drawing by Turner of Flint Castle, in his latest and yellowest manner,-with large watercolour specimens of Haghe and De Wint, and smaller specimens of Roberts, Robson, and others. -Nor should the connoisseur of Art have missed seeing some extraordinary and but little known specimens of the painter-poet Blake which have been on view during the present week at Sotheby & Wilkinson's. A large drawing called 'Queen Catherine's Vision' exhibits much of the divine sweetness of his pencil with better drawing and less exaggeration than is usually found in the works of this pictorial dreamer in worlds of his own.-We shall chronicle the prices in our columns of

A recent picture by Sir Edwin Landseermoreover, that has not been exhibited at the Royal Academy, or indeed at any public Exhibition is now on view at Messrs. Graves's in Pall Mall. The title is, 'Windsor Castle in the Present Time'-and the persons of the picture are, Her Majesty, Prince Albert, and one of the chil-The Prince has returned from the fatigues of shooting, and the contents of his bag are exposed to the view of Her Majesty,-who is in white satin and in a standing posture. Many of our readers will at once recognize the subject of the picture from Mr. Atkinson's engraving of it which forms at present a conspicuous object in all our print-shop windows. As a composition the picture is at least agreeable; while in the manipulation of the game and the white satin dress Sir Edwin is quite up to his former mark of excellence. question, however, both the artistic and the Chester-field propriety of turning a drawing-room into a larder or a gamekeeper's hall; for fine French fur-

niture and velvet covering assimilate badly with Adonis of the chase—he is not rough and wearied and dirty from the field. Velasquez would have painted him differently.

We see it announced in the Italian papers that the well-known gallery of pictures and antiquities belonging to the Prince of Salerno, is to be sold, by auction, at Naples, on the 19th of next month and following days. Some of our readers will recollect that the greater part of this collection was exhibited for several years at the Museo Borbonico, bited for several years at the Musco Dordoneo.

The chief paintings of the Italian school are
'A Descent from the Cross,' by Daniel de Voltera,
'The Dream of Venus,' by Annibal Carrace;
Guido's 'Our Lady of Peace;' Lionel Spada's
'A Christ crowned with Thorns;' and works by Salvator Rosa, Sasso Ferrato and Scipio de Gaeta, The French school includes, it is said, two Claude Lorraines, a Van Loo, a Gerard, and two by Ingres. Works by Van Dyck and Mirevelt represent the genius of the Netherlands. The specimens of antique statuary and of Italian mosaics in this gallery are numerous.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL—Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—NEXT PRIDAY, 2nd April, Haydn's CREATION. Vocalists engaged: Madame Clara Novello and Mr. Sinsa Reves. The Orchestra, the most extensive in Exeter Hall, will consist of including 16 Double Basses) nearly 709 Performers.—Tickets, 84; Reserved, 3c.; Central Area, numbored Sents, 109, 6d. each; at the Society's Office, 6, in Exeter Hall.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL—Conductor, Mr. COSTA. — The SUBSCHIPTION is One, Two, or Three Guineas per Annum, which hast year included Electro-Concerts joining,—the Subscription dating from the 25th of March to a corresponding period next year,—Haydra's CREATION will be performed NEXT PRIDAY, the 20d, and Handel's MESSIAM on WEDNESDAY, the 7th of April.

NEW PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—The SECOND CONCERT will take place on WEDNESDAY in Easter Week. Conductor, Mr. HECTOR BERLIOZ.—Programmes, Tickets, &c., &c. Cramer, Beale & Co.'s, 201, Regent Street.

Cramer, Beale & Co. 8, 201, Regent Street.

ELLAS WINTER EVENINGS.—NOTICE.—The LAST COSCERT will be on FittDAY NEXT instead of FittURSDAY. 8.38 sorthers unable to be present may transfer their tuckets. Lémark, whose violin playing so captivated his hearers at his dable, will lead a Quartett and play a Concerto; Bottesini will play a Selo; Sterndaie Bennett will play Mendelssohus' Air with variations & quarte mains' with Fauer; and the latter will also play a leasiest Morceau, with accompaniment. Madame Léonard di Mend, and Signor Marras will sing. The performance will begin at 8 o'dick.
—Tickets, SEYEN SHILLINGS each may be had of Granera Co., Madame Pleyell, Mölle, Graver, Mille, Craust, Halle, and Pauer, are the Pianists engaged for the Musical Union. Yearners, Storet, Piatti, Bottesini, and other cunineat Artists are also engaged.—The first meeting will take place on Tuesday, the 20th of April.

QUARTETT ASSOCIATION, under the immediate Patronage of Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN and His Royal High-ness PRINCE ALBERT.—MM. Sainton, Cooper, Hill, and Pistti beg most respectfully to inform the Musical Public that they will ness PRINGE ALBERT.—M. Santon, Cooper, Hill, and Platte beg most respectfully to inform the Musical Public that they will give a SERIES of SIX MATINESS during the months of Angle, May, June, and July, commencing on WEDNSDAY, the Schof April, at Willias Beoms, et. and Deby SEDAY, the Schof April, at Willias Beoms, et. programme of the Compositions selected for performance Critical analyses of the Compositions selected for performance Critical analyses of the Series, I. I. I. 18 ded, Single Ticlets, 10s. do.—Purther particulars will be duly announced. Subscribers' names received by Mesza, Addison & C. 30l, Regent Screet, Kender & Cock, 63, New Bond Street, S. A. Turner, 19, Poultry, City; M. Santon, 7, Soois Street, Kentur, 18 and of Mr. Cooper, 3, Windsor Cottages, Haverstock Hill.

MR. NEATE respectfully aunounces that his last three QUAITETT and PIANOFORTE SOIRÉES will take place at the New Beethoven Hooms. 27, Queen Anne Street on the 31st instant, and take and 28th of April. Executants—1M. Sainton, Cooper, Hill, Piatti and Neata.—A Ticket to admit lare persons on the South of Mr. Sainton, and the persons of the South Cooper, 18th, Piatti and Neata.—A Ticket to admit lare persons on the South Cooper, 18th, and Neate, 20th of Mr. Neate, 20th of Mr. Neate, 20th of Street, Programmes and Tickets may be had of Mr. Neate, 20th of Street, Portland Place, and at the principal Music Street, Programmes and at the principal Music Street, Programmes and the principal Music Street, Programmes and the Programmes and the Programmes and the Programmes and the Programmes and Tickets may be able to the Programmes and Tickets may be a supported by the Programmes and Tickets may be a supported by the Programmes and Tickets may be a supported by the Programmes and Tickets may be a supported by the Programmes and Tickets may be a supported by the Programmes and Tickets may be a supported by the Programmes and Tickets may be a supported by the Programmes and Tickets may be a supported by the Programmes and Tickets may be a supported by the Programmes and Tickets may be a supported by the Programmes and Tickets may be a supported by the Programmes and Tickets may be a supported by the Programmes and Tickets may be a supported by the Programmes and Tickets may be a supported by the Programmes and Programmes an

MDLLE. SPEYER begs to announce that she will give TWO MDILLE. SPEYER begs to announce that sile will give "wuy S'IREEN MUSICALES at the New Beethoven Booms, 27, quea Anne Street, on Tiursdaxs, April 1st and 22nd, on which oceands Mdlle. Speyer will perform a selection of Classical and Modern Pianoforte Music, besides being assisted by eminent Artists Reserved sents for Subscriberts to the Series, One Guinea. Single tickets, Half-a-Guinea. Triple tickets, to admit three to one Sories one Guinea. To be had of Mille. Speyer, 13, Burry Virest, Bale Square; at Mossrs, Chappell's, New Bond Street, and Messrs. Leafer & Cooks', New Bond Street.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

L'Amore.—Serenade for the Pianoforte, Op. 12. -Come quel fior si lieto: Arietta.—Io sento che in petto: Canzonett.—Home: a Ballad. By Charles Salaman.—We imagine that want of exercise of his gift alone stands between Mr. C. Salaman and a fair reputation among composers of English origin, though not of English music. His instrumental notturno and songs are by many degrees superior to the generality of such music. All four display taste, finish, and, what is of not less impor-tance, that feeling for melody which with habitual

practice and self-scrutiny, may, we are satisfied, be improved into the power of creating melody. To this possible improvement too little attention is paid by many composers and connoisseurs; both of whom often act as if the tune may take care of itself provided only that there is plenty of scientific device by way of condiment. Among our musical text-books a judicious and liberal analysis of melody is much wanted. Meanwhile, it is to be wished, for the sake both of himself and of players and singers, that Mr. Salaman would (or could) give himself forth more freely. It would be well, too, if he would recollect that there is a genuine difference between Italian and English sentiment. His "Ballad" is the least satisfactory of the compositions before us.

of the compositions before us.

Fantaisie-Etude for the Organ, Op. 15—Andante, with Variations for the Organ, Op. 17. By W. T. Best.—Mr. Best.—already known as one of our best organ players—appears honourably anxious to conquer a like reputation as composer for his noble but neglected instrument;—acting in the spirit of the counsels which we have just given to Mr. Salaman, and losing no opportunity of producing himself in composition, with that apparent determination to advance which must, if systematically followed up, work its own fulfilment. Certain passages in his 'Fantaisie-Etude' are hard to accredit, because they show ambition strong in proportion as fancy is weak. Nor is the theme of the 'Andante, with Variations' as happy as a theme should be. Both works, nevertheless, are more interesting than former compositions by Mr. Best which we have examined; and the increase of such a merit becomes as a sign of promise of such a merit becomes as a sign of promise of such a merit becomes as composition, where dryness is so besetting a temptation.—While talking of organ composition, it may not be out of place here to mention that Dr. Liszt (whose course of experiment, without public apparance in composition, is becoming somewhat angthy) is said to have just completed a grand

not be out of place here to mention that Dr. Liszt (whose course of experiment, without public appearance in composition, is becoming somewhat lengthy) is said to have just completed a grand stan piece,—being a Fantasia, with a fugue, on adjects from 'Le Prophète' of Meyerbeer.

Reminiscences for the Pianoforte. By Robert Schumann.—Forty-three Characteristic Pieces—(Album für die Jugend).—These pieces, which the recondite and mystical composer of the 'Kreissleriana,' 'Paradise and the Peri,' and 'Genoveva,' would most probably contemn as mere trifles—shallow commonplaces—foolish, because they are pleasing and intelligible,—are, on those very grounds, among the most acceptable of Dr. Schumann's works that we have been till now fortunate enough to see or to hear. Excessively pretty, expressive and graceful are some of them; and proof of this may be found in the fact that they travel and penetrate, whereas their writer's grim and gloomy works on a large scale are liked by only a small congregation of admirers, which, happily for the health of musical society, does not increase. By the heretical world beyond the pale of the Clurch the latter can barely be tolerated.

New Philharmonic Society.—Since the Royal Italian Opera "broke out," no enterprise has stirred the interest and curiosity of musical London so widely and so deeply as the new speculation bearing the above challenging name.—Though we are rangedalike by principle and by sympathy on the side of novelty, it has been impossible for us to examine the programme of the New Philharmonic Society without some points of doubt suggesting themselves, which for the prosperity of the undertaking should be clearly understood and firmly settled at its very commencement. In the list of promises, the known and the unknown, the famous and the less famous, figure in company so promiscuously as to warrant misgivings that other considerations besides those of mere artistic merit may have entered into the scheme and decided the course of action. It being announced that this New Philharmonic Society is founded in protest against the circular exclusiveness of the old one,—its projectors were bound by prudence to avoid the suspicion of any tincture of "expediency" leavening their plans.—It may be naturally asked of them, therefore, on what ground two conductors were necessary:—and why, if an English one should be associated

with a most distinguished foreigner, the choice of the former should have fallen on a gentleman as yet unknown and inexperienced? That the new English works advertised to be given during the season should be all the property of one publisher, seems again to savour of coteric selection. Nor can we absolve the programme of the Opening Concert from over-anxiety of recommendation. Aids to comprehension are excellent,—antiquarian facts are interesting,—but an anticipatory criticism on the style of a master, who had yet a reputation to confirm in England, and who was about to conduct his own works, cannot be allowed to pass without dissent. It is for the Concert-givers to announce aspirants,—it is for "the faculty" to decree the prize.

Thus much by way of preface. Of the opening Concert, which was given on Wednesday last in Exeter Hall, with every appearance of success, we must now speak at some length. Yet, regarding the first part we can offer but detached notes. The orchestra is a very fine one:—but in the 'Jupiter' Symphony, even during the last movement, the band sounded too meagre for the large area in which it was placed. This Symphony was played without "repeats":—a measure possibly rendered expedient by the length of the programme, but unlucky as marking the inaugural appearance of a conductor who is so Spartan a purist as M. Berlioz.—The 'Oberon' Overture—owing, it may be, to the more modern manner of scoring, and perhaps because it was given with infinitely more fire, neatness and expression — seemed to fill the space better. — In Beethoven's Triple Concerto, the violin of Signor Sivori, the violoncello of Signor Piatti, and, most of all, the pianoforte in the hands of M. Silas, sounded tiny and gnat-like when, in contrast with so great a band, they had to engage the attention of the audience. This triple Concerto, though full of fine themes and picturesque effects, is Beethoven's least noble Concerto,—perhaps because its very form bound him to produce music more exhibitional than he could tie down his mighty mind exhibitional than he could tie down his mighty mind to producing. A dialogue of three discoursers demanding a perpetual display from each—is totally different from either such glorious monologues as his Pianoforte Concertos or such conversation pieces as his chamber music. In such a composition artifice must mix with the art, and whenever this was forced upon the master his might failed him. —The song of *Thoas* (sung by the male choristers), the Chorus of Scythians, and the *ballet* from Gluck's 'Iphigenia in Tauride,' so electrified the public as to be encored with acclamation:—but M. Berlioz must be again reckoned with as a corrupt purist for permitting so coarsening a prounison by many voices,—even were they as steady and as little chargeable with harshness as the very efficient body that appeared on Wednesday evening. The contrast betwirt the solemnity of the oracle and the savagery of the people stirred is utterly destroyed. But how noble is the scene! Why cannot this opera be tried at Covent Garden,—especially now that we have a Viardot and a Ronconi in combination with such a chorus as that establishment possesses?

To return to the New Philharmonic Concerts.

The main feature of interest in the second act consisted of the first four movements of the 'Romeo and Juliet' Symphony of M. Berlioz. This, we believe, has been the most popular of its composer's great works. Its performance was awaited with lively expectation, followed with willing attention, and received with cordial praise. Sincere, however, as was our part in the general interest, we cannot accept this Symphony without much drawback:—some grounds of which we will endeavour to state. We must begin with a few words concerning the general conception and distribution of the composition. Few lines are more difficult to trace than the line dividing scenic from descriptive music,—or the one separating music which illustrates from music requiring illustration. Yet we must make the attempt in endeavouring to value aright the 'Romeo and Juliet' Symphony of M. Berlioz; since there the imagination of the long slow orchestral movements by Beethoven (that from the Pastorale, with its bird-note coda, and that from the Choral Trecitative wants colour, phrase, accent; while the beauty of colour, phrase, accent; while the beauty of suppressed chorus forming its burthen.—In from the exquisite orchestral treatment of it, and in the bar or two for suppressed chorus forming its burthen.—In mixtures, and not by any felicity of rhythm or called—is forced and vague; and the admirable sonority to which it is wrought up cannot disguise from the ear the essential want of brio and brightness in the phrase itself.—Thus, to continue, delicious as is the conception of the chorus of brightness in the phrase itself.—Thus, to continue, delicious as is the conception of the chorus of brightness in the phrase itself.—Thus, to continue, delicious as is the conception of the chorus of brightness in the phrase itself.—Thus, to continue, delicious as is the conception of the chorus of brightness in the phrase itself.—Thus, to continue, delicious as is the conception of the chorus of brightness in the p

ment, nay, even a moderate comprehension, of this Symphony must presuppose on the part of the hearer an intimate dramatic and poetical knowledge of Shakspeare's play in order that he may fill chasms in the story and appreciate the full grace of certain passages. In selecting his points for the composition, M. Berlioz has dealt timidly with leading incidents and features of the tragedy, and "brought out" to the fullest relief an episodical passage. Juliet's scenes with her nurse—her solidoquy in her chamber—her last terrible waking in her tomb—lie beyond the province of any merely instrumental writer. They are not to be set, not to be played and sung cantatawise (or in description). Hence, our Symphonist was compelled to dwell in preference on the quarrel betwixt the "two houses,"—on the ball, and—that his Symphony might not lack the canonical scherzo—to expatiate on Mercutio's passing allusion to Queen Mab. Now, an andante tranquillo on the uses of flowers and herbs set forth in Friar Laurence's monologue might have as pertinently made a part of this illustration of 'Romeo and Juliet.' If a stranger to the play could gather any idea of story from the Symphony, it would be of some tale like 'The Tempest' or 'Midsummer Night's Dream,' in which Ariels and Oberons were interlocutors and agents. There is a wider and loftier poetry in the unexplained beauty and fancy of Beethoven's Symphony in a minor, than in the necessarily disproportioned attempt to explain a tragic drama, which could not, it seems, be made sufficiently various and attractive in the form selected without the composer treating as an incident an episodical figure thrown out by one of the speakers in the prodigality of wild wit.

Our questionings, which, in any common case would be "caviere to the million," are only due tributes to the excellent and shrewd sense of M. Berlioz as a critic. Enough, however, has been said concerning "the central idea" of this Symphony; with regard to which as a musical work we must now record those general impressions derived from a first hearing which may (or may not) be corrected by more deliberate judgment. The first movement or prologue comprises an instrumental prelude, a choral recitative, couplets for a contralto solo, and a vocal scherzetto for tenor solo with chorus in which Mercutio's description of Queen Mab is set.—No. 2. is divided between the love-sick musings of Romeo and the ball at the Capulet palace.—No. 3. is an adagio betwixt the two lovers; at its outset broken by a chorus of the guests going home from the ball.—No. 4. is a second scherzo, devoted to Queen Mab this time, purely instrumental. — Now, in all these movements, while the apprehensive mind must at once admit and enjoy the presence of aspiration, the least fastidious car will be puzzled to point out one of those clear, fresh and intrinsically simple musical ideas which must be originated as basis, let the colouring be ever so lusciously beautiful or fantastically arresting,—or the composition cannot ultimately live. The agitato phrase that opens the Prologue is nervous and decided enough,—but the subject is little more than enunciated. The choral recitative wants colour, phrase, accent; while the beauty of the contralto solo dies in the exquisite orchestral treatment of it, and in the bar or two of suppressed chorus forming its burthen.—In No. 2. the festive character of the movement imparted by the brilliancy of the instrumental mixtures, and not by any felicity of rhythm or lustre of melody. The ball tune—if tune it can be called—is forced and vague; and the admirable sonority to which it is wrought up cannot disguise from the ear the essential want of brio and of brightness in the phrase itself.—Thus, to continue, delicious

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consciously referred when writing his love-scene, will be found that decision of phrase and con-structive symmetry which provide a clue through the maze of sweets, even where the flowery laby-rinth is thickest. In this love-scene from 'Romeo and Juliet,' we have the intricacy, the colour (to speak metaphorically), the perfume of the wilderness of bloom,—but not the clue. And though we concede from experience that the listener may habituate himself to dispense with idea for the sake of beauties of detail and of tone, -such toleration, we are no less convinced, will never conduct him to that thorough satisfaction which belongs to and brightens upon every exhibition of real form and individual design, whether left in their simplicity or mys-tified by complicated drapery and super-seductive colouring. For like reasons, the scherzo of Queen Mab — wondrous though it be in right of its orchestration,—is less welcome to us than the 'Dance of Sylphs' in the 'Faust' of M. Berlioz. Throughout that Cantata, indeed [see Athen. No. 1060], we find traces of a desire on the part of the symphonist to reconcile himself with the established form and order of melodic writing. Therefore, though its subject has not the charm of Shakspeare's subject, we are disposed to prefer the Faust' to this earlier work by M. Berlioz.

Without hesitation, however, and in the warmest terms which admiration commands, must we say, that this 'Romeo and Juliet' Symphony has anew convinced us of the supremacy of M. Berlioz in the matter of orchestral colouring. nothing timid, nothing dull, nothing harsh, in his palette; no wasted colours-no dreary patches of background to bring out peculiar points and passages by trick,—but a charm, glow, tender-ness, grandeur, diffused as each are required. There is hardly a score of bars from this 'Romeo and Juliet' Symphony which would not furnish an example in justification of our praise. The command over his gift possessed in such perfection by M. Berlioz may have led him in part to underrate matter as unimportant when compared with manner: but the neglect is a serious one, since it stands-and must, we apprehend remain-an obstacle, betwixt the composer's works and their permanent acceptance among musicians. We state our impression frankly, because we are satisfied that by the exercise of self-scrutiny, vigour and freshness of idea may be cherished and increased, - and because our desire is earnest and cordial that a master so great in one branch of Art should not be encouraged to linger enamoured over his special greatness,-but conquer the space which intervenes betwixt him and that completeness of empire gradually gained, and surely kept, by the Haydns, Glucks, Mozarts, Beethovens, and Mensohns of Music.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY .- The Sacred Har monic Society's last performance of Handel's 'Israel' — though not what the performance will be when that magnificent work is as familiar to our choristers as the 'Messiah'—was a sensitive to our choristers as the 'Messiah'—was a sensitive that the state of the sta ble advance upon all London performances of As a treasury of musical effects and past years. suggestions the Oratorio is exhaustless; and should it ever come into favour with the transcendentalists -like the 'Don Juan' of Mozart, (concerning which we still hear of new books and new theories preparing in patient Germany)-a library could be written in analysis or in rhapsody, concerning the musical thoughts which it contains and the language in which they are uttered.— The Creation is to be the next oratorio;—in which Madame Novello will sing the soprano music.

LONDON SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY. - Since our last we have received the following communication, signed by the three committee-men of the London Sacred Harmonic Society, adverted to in the Athenœum last week, who, after having signed the official disclaimer of Mr. Williams's 'Veritas' letter, subsequently withdrew their names.

" March 24, 1852 "March 24, 1852.

"Sir,—As you have referred to us by name in your comments upon the letter which appeared has week from Mr. W. Williams. the late acting Secretary of the London Sacred Harmonic Society, we trust you will allow us to explain why we signed, and afterwards withdrew our names from the disclaimer which denied all knowledge of the origin or dis-

tribution of the circular of 'Veritaa.' After the disclaimer had been drawn up and read at the Committee meeting on the 9th of February, as we understood clearly its main object, and were conscious of our entire innocence respecting the circular in question, we signed the document without hesitation. On a careful perusal subsequently of the terms in which the disclaimer was expressed, although we strongly condemned many of the expressions of 'Veritaa,' we nevertheless could not conscientiously "record our entire disapproval" of all the sentiments contained in his letter, nor could we declare that all his strictures were "unmerited.' We refer of course to those which denounced the ungenerous opposition with which for several successive years we have had to contend. It was distinctly understood that the disclaimer should not be forwarded until it had received the signature of every member of the committee, and as the document was incomplete—for you will observe that four members of the committee have not signed it to this day—we withdrew our names—believing we had a perfect right to do so—In order that the terms of the disclaimer might be re-considered. After perusing your remarks we feel bound to assure you that until the 18th of this month, when Mr. Williame made the avowal contained in his communication to you last week, neither of us had the most remote knowledge. Williams made the avowal contained in his communication to you hast week, neither of us had the most remote knowledge of the origin of the letter signed 'Feritas.' or by whom or by whose authority it was distributed. We do not for one by whose authority it was distributed. We do not for one moment defend the circulation of such a letter, for we agree with you that "Art is little worth unless it influences the charities of life and the courtesies of intercourse," and if our clder rivals would but learn this admirable lesson, much of the ill feeling which has hitherto existed would speedily disappear. Trusting to your sense of justice to hissert this explanation, we remain, Sir, your obedient servants, "Joseph Surman, Conductor of the L. S. H. S. "W. E. Everett."

"John S

On the above a few words of comment will suffice. In a paragraph from a printed note addressed by the late President of the London Sacred Harmonic Society to Mr. Bowley, dated February 17th, the Rev. G. Roberts adverts to the disclaimer having been "sanctioned and signed" by all the members of the committee present. Further, it must be recollected, that th e note or minute was forwarded to the Athenaum for publication—and was published-without any subsequent protest against either the matter or manner of the pamphlet on the part of the gentlemen now protesting.—With these facts, we take leave of the case, and leave the public to draw its own conclusions.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.-Mr. Lumley has at last put forth his programme for the coming season at Her Majesty's Theatre. It contains little which has not been already given in the Atheneum. The rumoured engagement of Signor de Bassini is confirmed,—that of Signor Negrini is mentioned, 'Don Giovanni' is promised with three German ladies :- 'Casilda,' by H.R.H. the Duke of Saxe Gotha, is to be among the novelties. Another opera, erroneously described as unknown to the English public, is Flotow's 'Martha,' which work was given by the last German opera company that visited England, and then not found attractive [Athen. No. 1128.] On the whole, the prospectus (taking off those per-centages which experience of disappointment, non-performance, &c., renders necesary) is not very rich in promise.

The Back Society held its anniversary per-

formance on Monday last,—at which some of the unfamiliar vocal and instrumental works by the

great Leipsic cantor were performed.

At the first concert of the Royal Academy students, this day week, a Motett of considerable length and fair importance by Dr. C. Steggall was given :- A MS. Sacred Chorus by Miss Spratt is highly spoken of by competent witnesses.-The last concert of the second series of the Glee and Madrigal Union and Mr. Lucas's second Musical Madrigat Union and Mr. Lucas's second Musical Evening have been held in the course of the week.

—We can give only a line to Mr. Ella's Winter Evening of Thursday,—announcing the appearance there and the perfect success of M. and Madame Léonard. Of the performance of both we shall have many opportunities of speaking in detail. Meanwhile, we may remind the readers of the Atheneum that M. Léonard has been already commended by us as one of the soundest, most graceful, and most thoroughly accomplished violin players extant,—and state our conviction that Madame Léonard, who has ripened since the days when she was known here as Mdlle. de Mendi, is the lady of ladies to aspire to the succession (at present vacant) of that accomplished and versatile artist Madame Caradori Allan.-The first meeting of the Beethoven Quartett Society was to be held last

We are informed that it is the intention of Henry Pauer, the pianist, to take up his abode in London A new Operetta in one act, by M. A. Adam,-

'Le Farfadet,' has just been given at the Opera Comique of Paris.—M. Halévy's grand opera 'Le Juif Errant' will now, says the Gazette Musicale, possibly be held back until after Easter. A correspondent writes to us, from Naples, as

follows.—"Since I last wrote to you, the first representation and failure of a new lyric tragedy, entitled 'Mudarra,' the words by Signor Domenico.
Bolognese, the music by Maestro Vincenzo Battista, have taken place. As I have often ob-served to you, music is at a very low ebb in Naples, and the prosperity and support of our theatres are no longer of that national importance that they once were. Nor is this complaint conthat they once were. For is this companie con-fined to the south of Italy, for I find it echoed from the north. The economists of Piedmont for some time have knocked off from the budget the sum that was annually allowed for the royal theatre of Turin :-- the consequence was, that this model of Piedmontese theatrical institutions fell into disorder and ruin. By raising the price of the tickets, however, and permitting it to collect for its support one-tenth of the profits of the minor theatres, it emerged again phoenix-like from its ruins; but now it is seriously contemplated to deruins; but now it is seriously contempared to use prive it of this privilege,—and high Art in Turin-is consequently in despair. The loss occurring by taking away this privilege will amount to 26,000 liras, or 15,000 liras net to the appalatori,— almost involving the actual closing of the theatre, unless other means be adopted for making good this loss. Meanwhile, this matter is under serious discussion before the tribunals; and it is proposed that in the event of the "tenth" being denied to the larger theatres by the tribunals or by a special law, it shall be made good to the appaltatori by the municipality to the amount of 26,000 liras.'

To succeed Mdlle. Dejazet, that personification of the quintessence of impertinence, and M. Lafont, that pink of gentlemanly rakishness,-Mr. Mitchell has summoned the terrible and forcible M. Lemaitre and the expressive Madame Clarisse. The great melo-dramatic actor has paid a heavy tribute to Time; but his 'Don Juan' and 'Ruy Blas' and 'Paillasse' compel the subscribers and public of the French plays to tremble and to weep as heartily as they were made to laugh a fortnight ago by Richelieu, La Douairière de Brionne and Achille Dubriand. May we be forgiven for preferring in art that which is grotesquely droll to that which is spasmodically passionate? Unless the poetic sense of pity or of terror is touched (as happens when the being of the mind is a Lear, a Lady Macbeth—or even a Phèdre, a Roxane, a Camille)-

Tis better we laugh than weep.

The departure of Mr. and Mrs. Keeley from the Princess's Theatre warrants the idea that the star of comedy is waning there in favour of the less wholesome light of melo-dramatic tragedy. This seems a pity on all accounts, -since the class of entertainment preferred, however for a time successful, is singularly self-exhausting. The "gruel" must be made more "thick and slab" every time that the bowl is sent round;—and the history of the Théâtre Porte St. Martin at Paris, if written, would tell every one interested in the subject to what lengths, breadths and depths of horror managers may drive their authors, actors and public-and still end in wreck and ruin, - owing to their poisons being made by repetition as thorough "a dose" as the most insipid comedy, sentimental or genteel, of the panada school.

MISCELLANEA

Transmission of Books, &c. to Cape Town. __From the 1st of April the new regulations for the transmission of literary property through the post-office will come into operation as respects Cape Town-From that day all printed books, magazines, reviews, and pamphlets (whether British, colonial, or foreign), addressed to Cape Town may be forwarded by packet at the following rates: For each packet not exceeding half a pound in weight, 6d.; for each packet exceeding half a pound and not exceeding one pound, 52

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does not extend to the colony generally—but only to Cape Town. As yet the authorities have not the means of forwarding parcels into the interior.

Mr. Collier's Follo Shakspeare.—I quite agree with your correspondent 'Horatio' in his estimate of Mr. Collier's activities, considering with him that the MS. corrections are more than merely conjectural emendations. The volume is indeed (if the few particulars yet imparted to the public may warrant the expression of any opinion) a nearer approach to an authentic original, either manuscript or pinier's revise, than one has ever dared to hope for,—and, as such, may well weigh in the balance against all the variorum restorations that have been suggested by wit and learning in two centuries and a half. Even supposing that in some instances the alterations are erroneous, that circumstance alone does not, to my mind, invalidate the claim of the book to its high and unique character generally:—such mistakes will creep in from every hand but the author's even,—and in the case before us they show merely that the corrector had recourse to more than one source of emendation, and was at times perliaps hastily misled by the similarity of sounds in some of the early representations on the siaga. Mr. Collier may be assured that his announcement has caused a great sensation throughout Shakspeare-dom, and that no light responsibility as to the future now rests upon his shoulders. A very early result will, I trust, be, the appearance of a carefully printed volume, adapted for side civulation, containing every minutest alteration, in either the text or the punctuation, which has been made in the follo,—accompanied by such prolegomena and notes, bearing on the subject, as no one is better qualified to continue than himself. Finally, the good work will be completed by his depositing the folio in the British Museum, tegether with written verifications of its history, so far as he means exist of now tracing it. The astounding imposition of the Mr. Moultrie's, Is aloud not held the press.

March 13. Iam, &c. J. F. K.

Amyrian Inscriptions.—Edinburgh.—In several numbers
of your journal during the past and present year interesting papers by Col. Rawlinson and others have appeared on
hamod and Khorsabad, and deelphered more or less certaily by those writers. In none of these communications,
however, have I been able to detect a trace of the language
is which the inscriptions are written; and my object in
sading you this note is, to request information on this point,
and to ascertain, the characters being identical, how the
laying inscriptions differ from the Persian ones of Darius
at Behittin, &c., of which the language is Indo-Germanic
re a semitic language? Yours, &c. HIBERNICUS.

To Correspondents.—W. M. R.—G. J. N.—D. W.—T. S. -W. J.—received.

C. H. D. - We cannot answer this Correspondent's

PROTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.—In reply to numerous corre-postents, we beg to state, that the Photographic Society is sell yet formed,—owing mainly to some arrangements being accessry to prevent the infringement of patent rights. Maters are however progressing, and in a week or two we believe the Society will be fairly established.

"sure the Society will be fairly established.

C.S.—Is informed that the pages of the Atheneum cannot be given up to the advocacy of the doctrine of the identity if "Latent Caloric" and "Electricity." The discussion of subject more properly belongs to some scientific sects.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the BOOKS for transferring Shares in this Society will be CLOSED on THURSDAY, the 2th instant, and will be RE-OFENDO on WEDNESDAY, the 18th day of April next. The DIVIDENDS for the Year 1851 will be payable on MUNDAY, the 18th day of April next, and on any subsequent day (Tuesdays excepted) between the hours of Ten and Three Octock.

By order of the Directors, WILLIAM SAMUEL DOWNES, Actuary.

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London, 26, Morgate-street,
March 22, 1852.

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H. A. DRAKE, Secretary.

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By order of the Board,
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42. Moorgate-street, London, February 5, 1852.
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Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.		Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.		
£5,000	13 yrs, 10 mths.	£683	6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8		
5,000	1 year		**	112 10 0	5,112 10 0		
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SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND AND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

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The THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of this SOCIETY was held on the 2nd current.— The Rev. Dr. GRANT, one of the Vice-Presidents, in the Chair.

The Report by the Directors, which was read to the Meeting, and unanimously approved of, showed, inter alia, the following results, in regard to the Society's operations, during the year 1851:

rults, in regard to the Society's operations, during the year 1851:
That the Number of Policies nased was 643, covering Assurances to the extent of 442,563. 4s. 6d.:
That the Capital of the Society amounted, at 31st December Inst, to 2,450,7931 2s. 2d.:
That the Annual Revenue, as at the same date, was 318,6611. 16s. 6d.; and
That 57. Members had died during the year, the Sums Assured on their Lives amounting to 105,7521. 14s. 9d., and this mortality being in the ratio of 35 per cent. of what was to be expected according to calculation.

tality being in the ratio of 33 per cent, of what was to be expected according to calculation.

The Meeting had also under consideration three several Resolutions, of which special notice had been previously given, in terms of the Society's Constitution. These Resolutions were approved of, and ordered to be submitted to a Special General Court, on an early day in September next, for final disposal. The objects containing the second of the second of the second in future be held,

To alter the day on which the Annual General Court shall in future be held,

To after the day on which the Annual General Court shall in future be held,

To after the day on which the Annual General Court shall be a supported to the second of the

A vote of thanks to the Directors and Office-Bearers having been proposed and seconded, and the vacancies occurring in the Direction having been filled up, the thanks of the Meeting were unanimously voted to the Chairman for his conduct in the Chair, and the Meeting adjourned.

JOHN MACKENZIE, Manager. WM. LINDESAY, Secretary. Edinburgh, March, 1882.

B.—A Full Report of the Procedure at the above Meeting is in to of being printed, and will shortly be ready for circulation. LONDON OFFICE-4, BOYAL EXCHANGE BUILDINGS. HUGH M'KEAN, Agent.

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60	4 7	10	8	50 60	6	14	9

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	£2500 1000 1000	£79 10 10 Extinguished 23 19 2 ditto 34 16 10 ditto	£1993 2 0 231 17 8 114 18 10

Examples of Bonuses added to other Policies.				
Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Addition to be further increase
521 1174	1807 1810	£900 1200	£982 12 1 1160 5 6	£1892 19 1 2360 5 6 8538 17 8

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Printed by JAMES HOLMES, of No. 4, New Ormond-street, in the country of Middlesex, printer, at his office No. 4, Took-count; and Chancery-lane, in the pursh of St. Andrew, in the said count; as published by James and James and